

Norfolk Investment Framework Evidence Base

Accessible version

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Introduction

Evidence base purpose: Introducing Norfolk's evidence base

Hatch was commissioned to produce a five-year Investment Framework to help secure long-term growth and prosperity for Norfolk. The Investment Framework will prioritise activities, sectors and places for future grant funding rounds.

Norfolk County Council will use the Investment Framework to assess funding applications from partners and make investment decisions that deliver the greatest possible benefit to the region. The Framework is being produced proactively and ahead of anticipated announcements on future funding rounds, including the Shared Prosperity Fund.

This document sets out a comprehensive assessment of the Norfolk economy and its constituent parts:

- Business: understanding Norfolk's business landscape, employment characteristics and specialisms
- People: understanding Norfolk's resident and worker population and socioeconomic challenges, and
- Place: understanding the spatial, social, and environmental factors affecting the prosperity and vitality of Norfolk's places.

An assessment of Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats (SWOT) has also been produced to capture key messages and provide a forward-facing assessment. Both of these elements – the economic baseline and SWOT – will shape the form and priorities set out in the Investment Framework and corresponding paper.

All data collected as part of this document has been shared with Norfolk County Council. This will allow evidence to be replicated and updated in perpetuity – enabling monitoring of change over time and progress of key performance metrics.

Comparator geographies: Contextualising Norfolk's performance

To contextualise the performance of Norfolk, county-level data has been benchmarked against several comparator areas. These include:

- Geographical neighbours Suffolk and Cambridgeshire
- Places that have stronger economic performance that the county can aspire to match – Suffolk, East Sussex and Warwickshire. and
- Places that are typically considered as 'in need' of levelling up but have similar challenges to Norfolk Cumbria and Cornwall.

Data has also been contextualised against the East of England and England averages.

Where possible analysis has been undertaken at the district level. The seven districts across the county are:

- King's Lynn and West Norfolk
- Breckland
- North Norfolk
- Broadland
- Norwich
- South Norfolk
- Great Yarmouth

Business: evidence summary

- An important economy: Home to 39,500 businesses and 389,000 employees that contribute almost £19bn in Gross Value Added to the national economy each year
- An economy with important clusters: For example, Clean Energy in Great Yarmouth, Life Sciences at the Norwich Research Park, Creative and Digital in Norwich and one of the largest general insurance clusters outside of London.
- A slower growth economy: Business and employment figures are increasing (+13% and +9% since 2010 respectively) but more slowly than at the national level (29% and 14%)
- A lower-wage economy: The biggest employment and business sectors are health, retail, education, manufacturing, construction, and hospitality
- A lower-value economy: While Norfolk contributes £19bn in Gross Value Added, its contribution per head is well below the national average (£21k vs £29k).
- An economy with regional variations: Norwich and Broadland make a significant contribution to the economy (£4bn and £3bn per year), which is much higher than North Norfolk and Great Yarmouth (£1.6bn and £1.8bn).
- An economy with opportunities: There are growing specialisms in highervalue parts of the economy, including Clean Energy, Knowledge Economy, Life Sciences, Digital/Creative and Agri-Food.
- An economy with relatively low innovation: Business start-up rates (10%) are below the national average (13%) as is uptake of innovation funds and the proportion of high-growth businesses is lower than in comparator areas (eg Cambridge and Cornwall).

People: evidence summary

- A growing population: Population has increased by +21% since 1991 (vs 18% nationally) and is expected to grow by another +14% by 2043.
- An ageing population: 25% of people are aged 65+ (vs 19% nationally) with future population growth expected to be highest among this age group.
- A low-skilled population: Only 35% of the population has an NVQ4+ qualification (vs 43% nationally) and 7% have no qualifications at all
- An economically active population: 81% of people (aged 16-64) are employed or looking for work (vs 79% nationally) but the unemployment rate (6%) is above the national average.
- A lower wage population: Median resident earnings are £28,571 and median workplace earnings are £28,421 (vs £32,944 and £31,044 across the East of England).
- A population with deprivation challenges: 14% of Lower Super Output Areas are within the 20% most deprived in the country but 24% of LSOAs are within the 20% most deprived in the country for education.
- A majority UK-born population: 93% of residents were born in the UK vs 86% at the national level, with other people being born in Europe (5%), the Middle East and Asia (2%), Africa (1%) and the Americas (1%).
- A relatively healthy population: Life expectancy is above the national average but lower than regional comparators. People generally report positively on their 'Life Satisfaction' and 'Happiness'.

Place: evidence summary

- House prices are relatively low. Median house prices are £240k which is below the national average (£250k).
- **Public transport is weak.** For example, Swaffham is accessible to 259,000 people by car within 45 minutes but only 8,000 by public transport.
- **Crime rates are low:** there are 72 crimes per 1,000 people annually vs 82 at the national level, 104 in Cambridgeshire and 90 in East Sussex.
- Commercial property availability is limited: vacancy rates are low for light industrial (<2%), industrial (<6%) and office premises (<2%)
- Commercial property is poor quality. Only 2% of industrial, 7% of light industrial and 6% of office space is Grade A and B vs 11%, 3% and 29% nationally.
- **Most places are digitally connected.** Only 1% of premises are below the Universal Service Obligation and 93% have access to superfast broadband.
- **Ultrafast connectivity is limited**. Only 30% of premises have access to ultrafast broadband vs 60% at the national level.
- Water and electricity supply is a constraint. The Environment Agency and UK Power Networks confirm supply constraints which will limit housing, commercial and business investment in the county

Norfolk's barriers to growth

- **Skills mix:** Oxford Economics forecasts show a mismatch between current and future skill needs and the local labour force is impacting inward investment and business expansion decisions.
- **Skill levels:** Low skill levels are restricting the ability of local people to access higher value roles in local growth sectors.
- **School attainment:** GCSE pass rates at 16 are similar to national averages, but fewer children attain the highest grades and beyond 16 more young people choose work without qualification than is the case nationally.
- **Road resilience:** Poor resilience on the strategic road network impacts productivity and investor decision making.
- **Public transport:** Poor public transport connectivity in rural areas makes it difficult for some to access employment/education opportunities.
- **Digital connectivity:** Patchy digital and mobile connectivity in rural and coastal areas reduces the attractiveness of these areas for business and means some people miss out on employment and education opportunities.
- Commercial property supply: The constrained and low-quality commercial property market limits business expansion and inward investment into the county.
- Housing supply: Despite lower-than-average house prices, a relatively low wage economy makes it difficult for young people to live and work in the county. A constrained housing supply in well-connected areas limits options for working age incomers.
- **Place offer:** Norfolk currently offers a more attractive way of life to families and older people, with higher skilled young graduates more typically choosing to relocate to other parts of the country.
- **Utility supply:** Constrained utility networks in strategic locations are restricting and slowing the level of development that can come forward.

These factors all impact productivity, inward investment, wages, economic growth, deprivation, social mobility, health etc.

Setting Norfolk's grand challenges

Norfolk's Barriers to Economic Growth are complex and interlinked, including:

- Skills
- Infrastructure
- Demographics
- Deprivation
- Connectivity
- Innovation

Four Grand Challenges have been developed to address the most significant of these barriers with the wider aim of driving growth in Norfolk's economy and the wellbeing of all residents.

- **Grand Challenge 1:** Create new opportunities for residents by increasing skills and labour market dynamism
- **Grand Challenge 2:** Provide effective and efficient public services to a spatially dispersed population
- Grand Challenge 3: Strengthen and future-proof business clusters to grow the economy
- **Grand Challenge 4:** Protect Norfolk's built and natural assets from climate change

Norfolk's policies

Together, For Norfolk (2019-25)

Main challenges identified: Norfolk's employment rate is higher than national average but a large proportion of people are in lower paid or seasonal roles; over half the rural population survive on low wages; automation is a significant threat to the local workforce; by 2040 40% of people are predicted to be 'dependent' rather than of working age; there is a lack of affordable housing for young families; Norfolk needs 80,000 new homes to meet demand; climate change presents significant risks to coastal communities; 120,000 people live in areas classed as deprived.

Main opportunities identified: The population is forecast to grow from 900,000 to over 1m by 2036; Norfolk has one of the largest county economies in the country; there are growing specialisms in clean energy, biotechnology and creative digital.

Main ambitions:

Four key priorities are outlined: inclusive growth and social mobility; encouraging housing, infrastructure, jobs and business growth; developing the workforce to meet the needs of the sectors powering the local economy; and reducing impacts on the environment.

This is to be achieved via three themes:

- 1) Growing Economy
- 2) Thriving People, and
- 3) Strong Communities.

Example activities supported:

- Growing Economy: Invest £2m of DEFRA funding to increase digital connectivity in rural businesses; achieve 99% 4G coverage across Norfolk by 2025; release public land for new housing; create more new apprenticeships by working with local businesses
- Thriving People: Invest £120m in new special schools; continue to commission the O-19 Healthy Child Programme; invest £29m in the Living Well: Homes for Norfolk programme to support extra care housing development
- Strong Communities: Grow volunteer network to reduce loneliness; continue to develop Norfolk as a high-quality cultural visitor destination; deliver 'Norwich Castle: Gateway to Medieval England' project.

Better Together For Norfolk (2021)

The Together for Norfolk Plan (2019) has been refreshed in 2021 to create the Better Together for Norfolk Strategy which focuses on the impacts of COVID-19 on life and work within Norfolk. It highlights the Council's strategic priorities for the County.

Main challenges identified: A survey of Norfolk residents used to understand the impact of Covid-19 and to identify key areas to focus recovery identified the main worries of Norfolk residents were for small local businesses, unemployment, social care and health, and investment in community infrastructure and hubs.

Main ambitions: The document sets out five strategic priorities: a vibrant and sustainable economy; better opportunities for children and young people; healthy, fulfilling and independent lives; strong, engaged and inclusive communities; and a greener, more resilient future.

This is to be achieved via three themes:

- 1) Growing Economy
- 2) Thriving People, and
- 3) Strong Communities.

Example activities supported:

- A vibrant and sustainable economy: Develop Norfolk as a centre for innovation in life sciences and supporting new technologies with a strong inward investment proposition that promotes our county as a place to visit.
- Better opportunities for children and young people: Implement a programme of work to support learning recovery in all age groups, to address disruption to learning caused by Covid-19.
- Healthy, fulfilling and independent lives: Accelerate the integration of health and social care services in Norfolk, taking a leading role on prevention.
- Strong, engaged and inclusive communities: Support local community or voluntary sector initiatives through discretionary funding programs, such as

- the Social Infrastructure Fund, and offer support for grassroots organizations to grow and develop.
- A greener, more resilient future: Implement Norfolk's Environmental Policy to
 protect the county's biodiversity, conserve areas of natural beauty, promote
 the efficient use of natural resources, and achieve 'Net Zero' carbon
 emissions across the County's estates by 2030.

Norfolk's Strategic Infrastructure Delivery Plan (2020)

The Norfolk Strategic Infrastructure Delivery Plan sets out high level strategic infrastructure priorities for the next ten years. It includes projects being delivered by both local authorities and external partners.

Example priorities identified:

- Long Stratton Bypass: Bypass for Long Stratton which will include delivery of 1,800 new dwellings
- Broadland Growth Triangle Link Road: New link between Broadland Business Park and Norwich Airport through development sites and into Norwich's suburbs
- Norwich Western Link: Link between Broadland Northway at Taverham to the A47 to the west of Norwich
- Broadland Rail Station: Proposed new railway station at Broadland Business Park on the line between Norwich and Sheringham
- Thetford Energy Supply: Delivery of substation and new energy infrastructure to unlock Thetford Urban Extension and development of Thetford Enterprise Park
- Snetterton Heath Energy Supply phase 2: Delivery of new power infrastructure to unlock employment opportunities at Snetterton Business Park
- Weavers Way Walking and Cycling Route: New walking and cycling route between Cromer and Great Yarmouth
- Broadland Growth Area School: New secondary school within the Broadland Growth Triangle
- East Norwich Regeneration Area: New infrastructure to enable once in a lifetime regeneration opportunity (bridges, roads, cycle infrastructure, marina etc)
- Thetford Junctions: Upgrades to Thetford's junctions on A11 to increase capacity
- Norwich in 90: Improvements to rail network to improve frequency and journey times between London and Norwich
- Great Yarmouth Flood Defences: Upgrades to existing defences to maintain protection
- A47 dualling: Plans in-train but project not currently under construction
- Great Yarmouth Third Crossing: Third river crossing in Great Yarmouth

 National Grid ESO: Proposals for a co-ordinated approach to connect offshore energy production to the national grid which will enable more energy to be produced and fed into the grid.

Norfolk's Apprenticeship Strategy (2020)

The Norfolk Apprenticeship Strategy 2020-2023 sets out a strategic vision and operational action plan for apprenticeships in Norfolk across all areas of Norfolk County Council.

Main challenges identified: A significant 4-year decline in apprenticeship starts in Norfolk, from a high of 7,670 in 2015/16 to 5,740 in 2018/19. Although the rate of decline had begun to reduce in 2018/19 and 2019/20, this has been severely impacted by Covid-19. National data suggests new apprenticeship starts have decline dramatically due to the impact of Covid19, but there has been a gradual increase in starts at all ages and levels after the first UK lockdown.

Main opportunities identified: The Strategy highlights three strategic strands identified by the Local Government Association review:

- 1. Children's services: supporting a broad range of pathways into apprenticeships for pre-16 and students aged 16-18
- 2. Growth and development: driving forward the provision of apprenticeships to support Norfolk's businesses to prosper and Norfolk's residents to aspire and grow throughout their working lives
- 3. Human Resources leadership and coordination of the internal apprenticeship programme.

Main ambitions: The Strategy sets out a vision that apprenticeships will be an attractive offer that Norfolk's young people and adults aspire to go into as a high quality and prestigious path to a successful career, and that employers (including NCC) value to develop their workforce.

Example actions:

- Identify and promote apprenticeships and traineeship opportunities in sectors of the Norfolk labour market that are actively recruiting
- Increase the volume of apprenticeship delivery at Advanced and Higher levels to meet the skills needs of Norfolk businesses
- NCC aims to be a widely recognized employer offering a wide range of attractive apprenticeship opportunities, with 90% of apprenticeship starters completing their qualifications.

Economic Strategy for the East of England (2020)

The Economic Strategy for the East of England was produced by Cambridge Econometrics in 2020 on behalf of IFM Investors. It has been endorsed by LEPs across the region.

Main challenges identified: Growth prospects are limited by an inability to move daily commuters to and from employment hubs; there is patchy infrastructure provision in rural areas which means many places are not integrated with important economic markets; there are disadvantaged coastal communities that are unable to access opportunities in the local transport, logistics and clean energy sectors; Permitted Development Rights is impacting employment assets and sites; levels of graduate retention are low and there are few clear attractors for them; there is a severe shortage of housing for locals and workers.

Main opportunities identified: The region's expertise and assets leave it well-placed to tackle the Government's Ageing Society and Clean Energy Grand Challenges; New Anglia LEP are focusing on building excellence in STEM disciplines across their skills and education system; R&D spending in New Anglia is 1.14x the national average; there are c.1,000 wind turbines off the coast of the East of England generating 3.5GW of energy - investment has been secured for another 1,000 turbines; 60% of offshore wind energy is generated in the East of England; there is 1.4m hectares of farmland in the East of England and 79% is arable.

Main ambitions set out: The strategy's vision is for the region to be a network of dynamic knowledge corridors that link key economic clusters and institutions with one another while also connecting coastal assets in the East (with specialisms in logistics, clean energy and tourism) and the London commuter belt to the south. These are to be interspersed with rural oases that themselves provide employment opportunities in the tourism and agri-food sectors.

Example activities supported:

- Provision of new housing and employment space; improvement and expansion of transport networks
- Creative placemaking to retain graduates
- Support diffusion of employment clusters from urban centres
- Improve in-work education provision
- Programmes to support technology adoption
- Future 'powerhouse' style co-ordinating agency

Norfolk and Suffolk Economic Strategy (2022)

The Norfolk and Suffolk Economic Strategy is a response to the Government's Plan for Growth and provides the foundations to secure government funding. This strategy looks to 2036 but focuses on actions needed over the next three to five years to secure long term success.

Main challenges identified: Employment levels are higher than the UK average, yet there are not enough people to fill current vacancies and some sectors face significant skills shortages – particularly with regards to science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM) related skills and capabilities. It is essential must to support and inspire businesses to commit to developing skills in their workforce and find ways to spark innovation.

Main opportunities identified: Norfolk and Suffolk have a £38bn economy and make a major contribution to UK plc. It is an outstanding place to live, learn and do business. 140 miles of coastline, three Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty – and a diversity of landscapes, internationally important wildlife reserves and historic sites. The main urban centres of Ipswich and Norwich are dynamic with a rich cultural heritage while the market towns are a significant anchor point for businesses and individuals, growing in relevance as a result of the pandemic.

Main ambitions:

- People Inspire and enable all people to access employment, upskill and reskill
- Business Connect and empower businesses through innovation, supply chain development and access to new markets, accelerating the economy's transition to net zero.
- Place- Transforming the Norfolk and Suffolk economy into one of the best places in the world to live, learn, work and succeed in business.

Example activities supported:

- People: Delivering targeted campaigns to attract the talent from inside and outside of the region into key sectors and teaching. Develop high quality, innovative business leaders across all our sectors from start-ups to established companies including leadership training, and innovation cluster programmes.
- Business: Develop 'investor-led' programmes that support businesses to understand and prepare to raise equity and other forms of finance. Strengthen and stimulate supply chain opportunities through Inward Investment and enterprise zone development.
- Place: Identifying and addressing under-supply of suitable commercial space to accommodate business growth. Developing and promoting high-potential opportunities to foreign investors. Maximising the potential of key transport corridors for the provision of high-quality premises allied to clean growth.

Norfolk and Suffolk Local Industrial Strategy (2020)

The Norfolk and Suffolk Local Industrial Strategy (LIS) is the next stage in the evolution and implementation of the regional Economic Strategy. It builds on the Economic Strategy but is a deeper and more focused piece of work.

Main challenges identified: The County has several innovation assets, but innovation is concentrated in a small number of firms; there is a lack of workers with the right technical and digital skills to meet current and future employer needs; current levels of exports are lower than in comparator regions.

Main opportunities identified: Norfolk and Suffolk are uniquely placed to build on centuries of innovation to pioneer the technologies and science needed to power, feed and connect a growing national and global population for a cleaner and more sustainable future. There are few places that are so uniquely equipped to make telling contributions to the major challenges facing the world in the 21st century – food and energy security, healthy ageing and living with environmental change in a world where technology is advancing rapidly.

Main ambitions set out: "A globally recognised, technology-driven, creative and inclusive economy which is leading the transition to a post-carbon economy through sustainable food production and sustainable energy generation".

Example activities supported:

- Clean energy eg expand the capacity and capabilities of regional ports to better serve the offshore energy market; expand OrbisEnergy's focus from renewables to clean energy and provide a full wrap around support service for new businesses
- Agri-Food eg invest in a Food Innovation Hub in the Honingham Food Enterprise Zone; collaborate with partners to unleash the potential of Agri-Tech East
- ICT and digital creative eg create a new digital hub in Norwich for the incubation of start-ups and scales up in the digital and ICT space; develop the economic case for SETI.

Norfolk County Council Environmental Policy (2019)

The Norfolk County Council Environmental Policy aims to put an approach that ensures that the development of Norfolk's economy is socially inclusive, while championing innovative and sustainable development at the centre of all efforts. It will support investment in green jobs and infrastructure, while ensuring that the environment is both protected and enhanced.

Main challenges identified: The Norfolk County Council Environmental Policy is concerned with key environmental impacts that increasing climate change has on all aspects of the environment, whether the landscape itself, the species within it, or the rich cultural heritage that occupies it. This policy reflects the areas that the Council sees as key to protecting and maintaining the health of Norfolk's distinctive environment and its occupants.

Main opportunities identified: This policy will provide clean air for the population, ensure a clean and plentiful water supply, encourage a thriving plant and wildlife community, reduce the risk of harm from environmental hazards such as flooding and drought, use resources from nature more sustainably and efficiently, enhance beauty, heritage and engagement with the natural environment, mitigate and adapt to climate change, minimise waste, manage exposure to chemicals and enhance biosecurity.

Example activities supported:

- Using and managing land sustainably eg embedding an 'environmental net gain' principle for development, including housing and infrastructure.
 Improving soil health. Working with key partners to ensure an adequate water supply, including exploring water harvesting initiatives.
- Recovering nature and enhancing the beauty of landscapes eg recognising that Norfolk is losing biodiversity, particularly insect populations. Therefore, a Pollinator Action Plan will be produced as a key element of our Environmental Strategy. Providing support for designated sites, including the Norfolk & Suffolk Broads, and the Norfolk Coast Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Natura 2000 sites and species, and County Wildlife Sites. Working to incentivise greater water efficiency, with users, and supporting water companies.
- Connecting people with the environment to improve health and wellbeing eg
 helping people improve their health and wellbeing by using green spaces.
 Encouraging children to be close to nature, in and out of school. Planting
 more trees to improve biodiversity and as a potential mitigation measure for
 climate change in appropriate locations.
- Increasing resource efficiency and reducing population and waste.
- Securing clean, healthy, productive and biologically diverse seas and oceans.
- Protecting and improving our global environment.

New Anglia LEP COVID-19 Recovery Restart Plan (2021)

The New Anglia COVID-19 Recovery and Restart Plan sets out the LEP's plan to support Norfolk and Suffolk's economy to recover from the impacts of COVID-19.

Main challenges identified: Norfolk's Gross Value Added is expected to contract by 35.9% due to the impacts of the pandemic; employment has been hit hard in the short term and will take several years to recover under a medium severity scenario; universal credit applications increased by over 33,000 in April 2020 taking the total claimant count to 95,000 people.

Example activities supported:

 Redundancies – individuals made redundant and businesses looking for workers will be supported via new partnership arrangements

- Advice and support for businesses –businesses will be supported to access the advice and financial support they need to recover from the pandemic
- Mental health and wellbeing –a programme to support employers and employees with the mental health and wellbeing support they need will be created
- Visitor economy –a campaign to promote Norfolk and Suffolk as a good place to live and work will be launched
- Digitisation a campaign to support businesses to improve their online presence and improve productivity will be launched, including better use of technology as well as support for remote working
- Supply chain LEP offices will work with local companies to capitalise on opportunities to sell more goods and services locally
- High streets LEP officers with local authorities to re-open high streets safely.

Norfolk and Suffolk Cross-Cutting Skills Report (2018)

This report sets out the major skills challenges across Norfolk and Suffolk and the LEP's proposed solutions. It feeds into and aligns with the LEP's Economic Strategy and LIS.

Main challenges identified: Priority sectors are growing which is creating demand for higher level technical skills which are difficult to find; digital technology is becoming more pervasive and there is a need to upskill workers and businesses; the Industrial Revolution 4.0 will create new job roles with new technical requirements; there are severe skill shortages in important front line sectors; qualification levels are low and there is a need for 'work ready' staff; the existing workforce needs to be upskilled to meet the future needs of their employers; there is a shortage of teaching staff particularly in technical fields; the working age population is expected to remain the same over the next two decades; there is an outmigration of young talent.

Main ambitions set out: Equip young people for success; drive skills progression for the workforce; provide agile and responsive training for key sectors; tackle barriers to work.

Example activities supported:

- Local sector partnerships: Enable employers and stakeholders to connect and articulate their skill needs
- Future proofing industry: Support employers realise the benefits of Industry
 4.0 and ensure the availability of the right skills for these roles
- Careers inspiration: Support young people and adults understand the outstanding local careers opportunities available locally
- Technical skills pathways: Ensure employer-led pathways are available for young people and adults to develop valuable technical skills
- In-career development: Ensure high quality skills provision to enable the existing workforce to upskill

- Teaching/trainer pipeline: Ensure that there are enough qualified and technically savvy teachers available to meet the needs of future employment
- Building local capacity: Support local skills providers to develop the expertise they need.

LEP Skills Advisory Panel's Local Skills Report (2021)

The report sets out the LEP's plan for supporting the growth of an inclusive economy with a highly skilled workforce to meet the needs of businesses.

Main challenges identified: It is difficult to provide education and employment opportunities to people in deprived rural and coastal areas due to poor transport links and less than optimal digital connectivity; the lowest performing areas for qualifications are Great Yarmouth, Sudbury, King's Lynn, Watton and Thetford; new technology, data, sensors and automation (Industry 4.0) is going to create demand for new skills across many sectors particularly agri-food; there is high demand for people with the skills to work in health and social care and this is only going to increase to support the ageing population; the area tracks below the national average in HE Qualifiers by subject for relevant subject areas – most notably engineering, technology, computer science; in 2019 Norwich had the second lowest rating for social mobility in the entire country.

Main opportunities identified: Major developments such as Sizewell C and Norfolk Vanguard Offshore Wind Farm will increase demand for construction related skills; apprenticeship take up in engineering and manufacturing are strong, as well as health, public services and care. Drive skills progression for the workforce; provide agile and responsible training provision for key sectors; equip young people for success; tackle barriers to employment.

Example activities supported:

- Campaigns to raise awareness of training and mentorship opportunities for workforce
- Campaigns to highlight opportunities to get into Further Education teaching
- Events/engagements with school staff to help them understand the Enterprise Adviser Network.

Norfolk Rural Economic Strategy (2021-24)

This latest report refresh for 2021-2024 focuses on the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and how the Strategy can respond to the major changes to rural community life.

Main challenges identified: Over half the people living in the county and claiming universal credit live in rural areas; business start-up rates in rural areas are well below the national average; the 2020 digital transition has been huge but rural

Norfolk still needs to overcome constraints due to a lack of connectivity and skills; rural communities need better access to health and wellbeing services; Brexit is causing challenges for many rural businesses (particularly health and social care) in recruiting and retaining workers; the impact of climate change could have significant impact for agricultural businesses.

Main ambitions set out: 'Our vision for Rural Norfolk is inclusive, sustainable communities with a dynamic, connected economy and healthy natural environment, able to meet the needs of all rural residents and visitors'.

Example activities supported:

- Provision of business diversification grants (eg a new LEADER or DRIVE programme)
- Diversification of publicly owned assets (eg County Farms Portfolio) to support rural diversification
- Champion the role of the Environmental Land Management Scheme to support countryside access and active forms of countryside recreation
- Skills and education programmes to support rising demand for digital and clean growth skills
- Support businesses to work with schools to raise attainment
- Utilise the County's Innovation Mentoring Grant Programme to support innovation within businesses
- Push forward the Shared Rural Network Programme
- Introduce 5G and fibre connectivity to rural areas first.

Norfolk's planned investments

- King's Lynn and West Norfolk: A149 King's Lynn Bypass; West Winch
 Housing Access Road; A47 Wisbech Bypass Junction Upgrades; A47 Tilney
 to East Winch Dualling; Future Fens Flooding Infrastructure; New Creative
 Hub; Kings Lynn Multi-User Hub
- Breckland: Snetterton Energy Supply; Thetford Water Supply; Thetford Sewerage Scheme; Thetford Sustainable Urban Extension; Attleborough Link Road; Thetford Energy Supply Upgrades; Attleborough Energy Supply Upgrades; Snetterton Heath Energy Supply Upgrades; A11 Thetford Bypass Junction Upgrades; Thetford Community Shop (Employment Support)
- South Norfolk: Easton, Hethersett and Cringleford Sewerage Upgrade; A140 Long Stratton Bypass; John Innes Centre HP3; Norwich Research Park Expansion; Smart Emerging Technology Institute (SETI)
- Broadland: Broadland Growth Triangle Link Road; Broadland Business Park Rail Station; Broadland Growth Triangle Secondary School; Burlingham County Park Investments; A47 Acle Straight Dualling; Honingham Food Hub; Food Enterprise Park Solar Farm

- Norwich: East Norwich Regeneration; Norwich Western Link; Digital Creative Incubator Hub; Trowse Rail Bridge Upgrades; Earlham Substation Upgrades; Cringleford Substation Upgrades
- North Norfolk: A148 Fakenham Roundabout Enhancements; Weavers Way Walking and Cycling Route; Bacton Hydrogen Hub (working in partnership with Hydrogen East, OGTC, ORE Catapult and North Norfolk District Council)
- Great Yarmouth: Great Yarmouth Operations and Maintenance Campus; Great Yarmouth Sustainable Transport Package; Great Yarmouth Third River Crossing; Great Yarmouth Station Upgrades; Great Yarmouth Flood Defence Upgrades; Great Yarmouth North Quay Regeneration; Great Yarmouth Town Centre Improvements; Great Yarmouth North Quay Regeneration
- County-wide: A47 Dualling and Upgrades; Local Full Fibre Network; Shared Rural Network Scheme; Norfolk and Suffolk Innovation Network; Norwich in 90 Programme; Smart Emerging Technology Institute; Norfolk County Council Go Digital Programme; Invest East Investment Readiness Programme; Delivering Rural Investment for Vital Employment (DRIVE)

Great Yarmouth O&M Campus

Location: Great Yarmouth

Theme: Business

Cost: £18m

Timescales: 2021-22

This project involves the demolition of buildings, refurbishment of the quay and creation of new pontoons on the southern tip of the South Denes peninsula in Great Yarmouth. These upgrades will make the area more accessible than it is at present and attract further investment from companies engaged with offshore wind farm development and maintenance (O&M). Associated infrastructure has also been upgraded to optimise the land for future development.

Norwich Research Park Expansion

Location: Norwich Theme: Business

Timescales: 2021-2031

The Norwich Research Park has plans to bring forward 450,000 sq ft GIA of additional commercial space over the next ten years to support the Life Science sector. Priority investments include two innovation centres, a new incubator hub, a Diagnostic Assessment Centre (DAC) and John Innes Centre's proposed HP3 development (Healthy Plants, Healthy Planet and Healthy People). The first project to come forward is expected to be Innovation Centre II which will provide almost 42,000 sq ft (NIA) of new commercial space.

A47 upgrades

Location: A47 corridor

Theme: Business and Place

Cost: £300m

Timescales: 2020-ongoing

£300m of improvements have been committed by Government and the Highways Agency to improve several stretches of the A47. Commitments include: dualling between North Tuddenham and Easton, dualling between Blofield and North Burlingham, improving the Thickthorn Junction and improving the A47 Great Yarmouth Junction. A campaign called 'Just Dual It' has been launched to encourage the Highways Agency and Government to dual the entire length of the A47.

Smart Emerging Technology Institute

Location: Norwich **Theme:** Business

Timescales: 2020-2024

The Universities of East Anglia, Cambridge and Essex, alongside BT and the Norwich Cambridge Tech Corridor, are working to develop the East of England Smart Emerging Technologies Institute (SETI). This has two aspirations:

- 1. To create a closed high-speed data loop connecting the Norwich Research Park, the University of Cambridge, the University of Essex and BT at Adastral Park. This would enable the high-speed transfer and processing of large quantities of data, which will support research and enterprise activities like the development and testing of AI algorithms.
- 2. To deliver education and training infrastructure at each location focused on the development of specialist big data capabilities and skills.

Selected ongoing investments

Clean Growth For Business

Location: County-wide **Theme:** Business

Timescales: 2021

New Anglia LEP are offering a series of webinars, events and resources to help businesses move towards a net zero position. The programme will help businesses learn more and develop plans and targets to help make their business operations cleaner and greener. Support is provided in relation to transport, property, construction, procurement and water.

Norwich Digi Tech Factory

Location: Norwich Theme: People Cost: £9m

Timescales: 2020-2021

City College Norwich are currently building a new Digi Tech Factory using funds from New Anglia LEP's Growth Fund. It brings together the college's digital skills provision into a single purpose-built space, allowing the college to increase the number of students and apprentices studying digital courses. It will deliver a range of courses from creative media to software and programming, and 'hard' digital skills in areas such as networking, infrastructure development, electronics, and automated manufacturing.

Norfolk Skills and Careers Festival

Location: Norfolk Showground

Theme: People Cost: £45k

Timescales: Ongoing

The Norfolk Skills and Careers Festival is an interactive event aimed at young people to help inspire them for their future career and to demonstrate the various options available. The festival is structured around thirteen sectors:

- Energy, Advanced Manufacturing
- ICT Digital and Creative
- Financial and Business Services
- Leisure
- Tourism and Culture
- Food and Farming
- Science and Innovation
- Health and Social Care
- Construction and Logistics
- Education and Training
- Public Services
- Retail and Enterprise
- Careers advice.

Great Yarmouth Town Centre Regeneration

Location: Great Yarmouth

Theme: Place Cost: £13.7m

Great Yarmouth Borough Council have secured £13.7m from the Government's Future High Street Fund to help revive Great Yarmouth Town Centre as a vibrant economic, cultural, and community hub. Priority projects include an enhanced library, new homes, redeveloping the marketplace, creating a heritage centre, and introducing more planting and greenery.

Norfolk's businesses

Business: evidence summary

- An important economy: Home to 39,500 businesses and 389,000 employees that contribute almost £19bn in Gross Value Added to the national economy each year.
- An economy with important clusters: For example, Clean Energy in Great Yarmouth, Life Sciences at the Norwich Research Park, Creative and Digital in Norwich and one of the largest general insurance clusters outside of London.
- A slower growth economy: Business and employment figures are increasing (+13% and +9% since 2010 respectively) but more slowly than at the national level (29% and 14%).
- A lower-wage economy: The biggest employment and business sectors are health, retail, education, manufacturing, construction, and hospitality.
- A lower-value economy: While Norfolk contributes £19bn in Gross Value Added, its contribution per head is well below the national average (£21k vs £29k).
- An economy with regional variations: Norwich and Broadland make a significant contribution to the economy (£4bn and £3bn per year), which is much higher than North Norfolk and Great Yarmouth (£1.6bn and £1.8bn).
- An economy with opportunities: There are growing specialisms in highervalue parts of the economy, including Clean Energy, Knowledge Economy, Life Sciences, Digital/Creative, and Agri-Food.
- An economy with relatively low innovation: Business start-up rates (10%) are below the national average (13%) as is uptake of innovation funds and the proportion of high-growth businesses is lower than in comparator areas (e.g. Cambridge and Cornwall).

Norfolk's business base: a micro-business dominated economy

Norfolk is home to around 33,150 businesses. Of which 88% are classified as micro-businesses. Despite this apparent domination of the local economy, this is marginally

lower than the East of England (90%) and England (90%). Norwich stands out as Norfolk's major urban centre with a tendency towards larger businesses.

Business size is largely defined according to number of employees. A microbusiness is defined as having fewer than 10 people employed; small have fewer than 50 employees; medium fewer than 250 employees; and large above 250 employees.

Proportion of businesses by size as of 2021:

- England: 90% micro, 8% small, 2% medium, 0.4% large
- East of England: 90% micro, 8% small, 1% medium, 0.4% large
- Norwich: 84% micro, 12% small, 3% medium, 0.7% large
- Great Yarmouth: 88% micro, 10% small, 2% medium, 0.2% large
- North Norfolk: 88% micro, 10% small, 1% medium, 0.1% large
- Norfolk: 88% micro, 10% small, 2% medium, 0.3% large
- King's Lynn and West Norfolk: 88% micro, 10% small, 1% medium, 0.3% large
- Breckland: 89% micro, 9% small, 2% medium, 0.2% large
- Broadland: 89% micro, 9% small, 1% medium, 0.3% large
- South Norfolk: 91% micro, 8% small, 1% medium, 0.3% large

Home to a unique sectoral mix of businesses

The sectors accounting for the largest shares of Norfolk's businesses are construction (13%), professional, scientific and technical (12%) and retail (10%).

While the retail split is in line with the national average (10%), construction businesses make up a larger proportion of the economy than they do nationwide (12%) and professional, scientific and technical businesses are much less well represented than across England as a whole (15%).

This is also the case for smaller but increasingly important knowledge economy sectors like Information and Communication. These firms represent about 7% of the East of England and national business base compared to just 4% of businesses in Norfolk.

Agriculture, forestry and fishing on the other hand represents a clear specialism in the Norfolk economy. Although this sector makes up a relatively small part of the national business base (3%) it is the fourth largest sector (by count of businesses) in Norfolk – accounting for 8% of all businesses.

Norfolk's business base has experienced slow growth over the past decade: it has increased by 11% since 2010, compared to the English growth rate of 27%. Growth in the business base has been concentrated in South Norfolk (18%) and Norwich (16%) meanwhile North Norfolk (4%) and Great Yarmouth (4%) have experienced significantly lower growth rates.

Scale of Norfolk's employment base

Health, retail and manufacturing are key employment sectors in Norfolk: they account for 35% of total employment in Norfolk and each account for higher proportions of the employment base than is seen at the East of England and England level.

The number of employees in Norfolk has grown by 9% since 2010 equivalent to 31,500 jobs. This is lower than the scale of change seen across the East of England (15%) and England (11%).

Employment growth has been uneven across Norfolk: there have been dips in employment across Norfolk's coastal towns including Wells-next-the-Sea and Great Yarmouth, with pockets of losses in Norwich and Thetford.

Within Norfolk, since 2010, South Norfolk has experienced the strongest employment growth (additional 9,300 jobs or 19%) followed by Breckland (additional 7,800 jobs or 18%). Great Yarmouth is the only district to have experienced a net decline in employment over the period of 800 jobs, a 2% loss.

Percentage employment change by district, 2010-2020:

• England: 11%

• East of England: 15%

Norfolk: 9%Norwich: 4%

South Norfolk: 19%Breckland: 18%North Norfolk: 13%

• King's Lynn and West Norfolk: 9%

• Broadland: 4%

• Great Yarmouth: -2%

Norfolk's economic output

Despite low productivity, Norfolk's size means it is a place of significant economic output: Norfolk contributed £19.5 billion in GVA during 2019. Since 1998, Norfolk has experienced GVA growth of 215% which is below the East of England (216%) and England (223%) averages.

In 2019, Norwich contributed the largest share of Norfolk's GVA (£4.2 bn) followed by Broadland (£3.5 bn) and King's Lynn and West Norfolk (£3.1 bn).

Norfolk's productivity

Output per capita trails behind other areas: Gross Value Added (GVA) per hour worked was £29.75 in Norfolk, based on a simple average across the seven local authority districts. Broadland had the highest GVA per hour of £35.99 and North Norfolk had the lowest of £26.34. Norwich is one of the weaker districts on this measure.

When productivity is measured by economic output per person the results look quite different. Output per capita in Norfolk was £21,440 which is lower than the national average of £30,239 and East of England average at £27,015. However, Norwich has the highest average output per head of all districts (£30,048) on this measure and is the only district to exceed the East of England average (£27,015). This suggests that in commuting to Norwich causes high output per (resident) person which somewhat masks lower per hour productivity.

Norfolk's sectors

The following sections provide a deep dive into the County's sectors and identify which should be:

- supported to grow (higher-value sectors that are growing and could define a future local economy)
- retained (specialised sectors that make an important economic contribution) and/or
- attracted to the county (sectors that do not have a strong local presence but are expected to drive future national economic growth).

The analysis primarily focuses on the 'standard' sectors in red below which are predefined by the Office for National Statistics using Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) codes – they capture all employment and business activity in the county. Analysis also considers the five non-standard cross-cutting sectors in blue, which are identified in regional policy as local specialisms. This draws on other Government and best practice definitions which utilise a range of SIC codes from across the different standard sectors. The employment and business numbers reported for the cross-cutting sectors are therefore not 'additional' to those in the standard sectors.

Standard sectors:

- Business administration and support services
- Accommodation and food services
- Wholesale
- Arts. entertainment, recreation and other services
- Mining, quarrying and utilities
- Health
- Property

- Manufacturing
- Agriculture, forestry and fishing
- Public administration and defence
- Financial and insurance
- Information and communication
- Motor trades
- Education
- Professional, scientific and technical
- Transport and storage
- Construction
- Retail

Cross-cutting sectors:

- Clean energy
- Knowledge economy
- Life sciences
- Agri-Food
- Digital/creative

Business sectors

Professional, scientific and technical, and business administration and support services are some of Norfolk's largest and fastest growing business sectors.

Largest sectors:

- Construction (5,100 businesses)
- Professional, scientific and technical (4,600)
- Retail (3,900)
- Agriculture, forestry and fishing (3,100)
- Business administration and support services (3,000)

Highest growth since 2011:

- Public administration and defence (64%)
- Transport and storage (59%)
- Business administration and support services (29%)
- Professional, scientific and technical (25%)

Largest fall since 2011:

- Wholesale (9%)
- Agriculture, forestry and fishing (5%)

Most valuable (to GVA PA)

- Real estate activities (£2.7bn)
- Manufacturing (£2.2bn)
- Wholesale and retail trade (£2.2bn)
- Human health and social work (£1.9bn)
- Education (£1.5bn)
- Financial and insurance activities (£1.5bn)

Employment sectors

Health, retail and accommodation and food services are Norfolk's largest employment sectors, whilst growth is concentrated in information and communication, accommodation and food services, and professional, scientific and technical sectors. Real estate, financial and insurance activities, and construction are Norfolk's most productive sectors.

High value/growth:

- Real estate activities
- Financial and insurance

High value/highly specialised:

Construction

Administration, arts and health are expected to drive employment growth over the next two decades. The Oxford Economics Local Forecasting Service suggests a large fall across some of Norfolk's current employment specialisms.

Some of the largest declines in jobs by 2040 are expected in:

- Manufacturing (14,200 jobs)
- Wholesale and retail (2,700 jobs)
- Agriculture, forestry and fishing (2,000 jobs)

Simultaneously, there is forecast to be significant employment gains in Norfolk over this same period. Sectors with the largest absolute jobs growth include:

- Human health and social work (15,200 jobs)
- Professional, scientific and technical (5,300 jobs)
- Administrative and support (5,300 jobs)

Growth in Norfolk:

- 26% in administration and support vs 25% in the UK
- 25% in arts, entertainment and recreation vs 18% in the UK
- 25% in human health and social work vs 23% in the UK

Decline in Norfolk:

- -58% in mining and quarrying vs -54% in the UK
- -35% in manufacturing vs -38% in the UK
- -22% in electricity, gas, steam and air vs -14% in the UK

Output projections

Knowledge-intensive and health sectors are forecast to drive GVA growth over the next two decades. The Oxford Economics Local Forecasting Service also assess potential changes in GVA at the local level. This shows a significant reprofiling of the Norfolk economy over the next two decades away from elementary occupations into knowledge-intensive sectors.

The following sectors are forecast to experience the largest absolute growth in terms of economic output:

- Human health and social work (+£989m)
- Real estate activities (+£896m)
- Wholesale and retail trade (+£697m)

The sectors experiencing the largest decline in economic output include:

- Agriculture, forestry and fishing (-£26m)
- Mining and quarrying (-£18m)

Growth projections in Norfolk:

- 59% in information and communication vs 66% in the UK
- 59% in professional, scientific and technical vs 68% in the UK
- 53% in human health and social work vs 51%

Decline projections in Norfolk:

- -46% in mining and quarrying vs -45% in the UK
- -6% in agriculture, forestry and fishing vs -8% in the UK

Prioritising sectors

Category: Growth

Sector	Justification	Policy alignment
Life sciences	37,500 people are employed in this sector with 27% employment growth since 2010 and around 1,000 businesses.	Norfolk and Suffolk Economic Strategy; Norfolk and Suffolk Cross-Cutting Skills Report
Professional, scientific and technical	32% employment growth since 2010 with 25% business growth since 2011 contributes 8% to Norfolk's GVA with this expected to grow 59% by 2040.	Economic Strategy for the East of England; Norfolk and Suffolk Cross-Cutting Skills Report
Clean energy	Norfolk's utilities sector (electricity, gas, steam, and air) is forecast to experience 22% employment decline by 2040. Meanwhile, clean energy employment in Norfolk has grown by 10% since 2010.	Together for Norfolk; Economic Strategy for the East of England; Norfolk and Suffolk Local Industrial Strategy; Norfolk and Suffolk Cross-Cutting Skills Report

Category: Retain

Sector	Justification	Policy alignment
Human health	Norfolk's largest employment	Economic Strategy for the
and social work	sector in 2019 (59,000 jobs), this	East of England; LEP
	sector is forecast to experience	Skills Advisory Panel's
	significant employment growth of	Local Skills Report
	15,200 jobs by 2040 and already is	
	Norfolk's largest sector (59,000 employees). Projected to	
	experience 53% GVA growth over	
	this same period.	
Finance and	Equivalent £1.5 bn to GVA. High	Norfolk and Suffolk
insurance	value jobs in Norfolk are relatively scarce other than finance and	Economic Strategy (2022)
activities	insurance. Aviva and Marsh are	
	two of Norwich's largest employers.	
	Largest insurance cluster outside of	
	London.	
Agriculture,	A specialised employment sector	Norfolk and Suffolk
forestry and	(LQ 3.0) this sector is forecast to	Economic Strategy;
fishing	lose 2,000 jobs by 2040. This sits	Norfolk and Suffolk Local
	alongside recent employment	Industrial Strategy;

Sector	Justification	Policy alignment
	growth of agri-food sector by 22% since 2010.	Norfolk Rural Economic Strategy
Manufacturing	Contributes £2.2bn (or 11%) to Norfolk's GVA and employs 33,000 people at present. This sector is forecast to lose 14,200 jobs by 2040. However, the data currently does not capture emerging sectors like Aerospace or MedTech.	LEP Skills Advisory Panel's Local Skills Report

Category: Attract

Sector	Justification	Policy alignment
Information and communication	This sector employs 7,500 people at present representing 35% employment growth since 2010.	Norfolk and Suffolk's Emerging Renewal Plan; Norfolk and Suffolk Local Industrial Strategy
Arts and entertainment	This sector has experienced a 12% fall in employment since 2010. Despite this, the sector employs 15,000 people and is forecast to grow by 25% by 2040.	Together for Norfolk; Norfolk and Suffolk Local Industrial Strategy

Norfolk's high growth businesses

High growth businesses are measured by the number of businesses with 10 or more employees that experienced an average growth in employment of greater than 20% per year between 2016 to 2019. The high growth rates are calculated as a proportion of the 2019 active businesses with 10 or more employees.

High growth businesses represented 0.4% of active businesses in Norfolk in 2019 which is in line with the East of England (0.4%) and England (0.4%) averages. Breckland (0.7%) and Norwich (0.6%) have larger shares of high growth enterprises than the Norfolk average (0.4%).

Norfolk's R&D expenditure

The East of England is the second largest recipient of R&D expenditure in the UK, but Norfolk lags behind. In 2019, the East of England received £6.9 bn total R&D expenditure equivalent to 18% of all R&D expenditure in the UK. Business

expenditure (£5.4 bn) accounted for the largest share of this, equivalent to 18% of total business R&D expenditure received by the UK.

R&D expenditure in the East of England has increased by 46% since 2011, which is slightly above the average for England (41%) and the UK (42%) over this period.

Innovate UK data shows Norfolk had received 0.4% of funds since 2004, significantly lower than other areas in the East of England. R&D expenditure does not benefit Norfolk in the same was it does the East of England and the UK.

Norfolk's innovation landscape

Start-up levels in Norfolk are low but businesses have a higher rate of survival. In 2019, 10% of all businesses in Norfolk were in their first year of starting up. This is below both the East of England (12%) and England average (13%).

One year business survival rates in Norfolk (90%) are in line with the East of England (90%) and slightly higher than the average for England (89%). Five-year business survival rates are strong in Norfolk with 46% of businesses still operating after five years compared to 45% in the East of England and 42% in England.

Access to finance for Small to Medium sized Enterprises (SME)

SME borrowing has accelerated since 2020 and the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic.

- UK Finance data indicates the level of SME lending by postcode sector. This data covers all outstanding borrowing based on the primary trading location of the business and includes loans and overdrafts to businesses.
- The total value of borrowing will be driven by the size of the SME sector, the price level and the financial position of its constituent businesses. In cash terms, this remained relatively flat at approximately £1.5 billion between 2013 and 2017 before a 2018 dip.
- Outstanding lending to SMEs has accelerated since 2020 and the onset of the covid-19 pandemic and reached £1.8 billion in 2021.
- After adjusting for the growth in prices and the changing numbers of SME businesses in Norfolk indicates the average level of real outstanding borrowing per SME.
- In real terms, the level of borrowing per SME fell year on year from approximately £60,000 in 2013 to £43,000 in 2018. this jumped to £54,000 in 2020 and rose again to £56,600 in 2021.

Omicron Hospitality and Leisure Grant

Amount available: Up to £6,000

Dates: 20 December 2021 - 31 January 2022

Grants are available to hospitality, leisure and travel businesses (with fewer than 250 employees) that have been impacted by the introduction of plan B restrictions due to the omicron variant of Covid-19.

Supply Chain Innovation for Offshore Renewable Energy (SCORE)

Amount available: 40% of eligible costs, or £50,000 with a minimum grant of £2,500

Grants are available for SMEs across England to develop new products, processes and ideas in offshore renewable energy. 12 hours of subsidised business support to help grow and develop businesses within the offshore renewables sector are also available.

Internationalisation Fund

Amount available: Match-funded grants of £1,000-£9,000

Dates: Currently open (started Dec 2020)

Grants are available for English SMEs with up to 250 employees to use for future business activities, aimed at helping these businesses grow into new international markets. Funds can be used to support areas including (but not limited to) market research, IP advice, translation services, or international social media.

Small Grant Fund

Amount available: £1,000 - £25,000 (20% of the total cost of the proposed project)

Dates: Currently open

Designed to provide funding for UK based growing SMEs. Grants can help towards the purchase of significant capital items, IP costs, development of new products or services, consultancy support, and trade fairs.

Go Digital Funding Programme

Amount available: £500 and free expert advice

Dates: Currently open

Free digital business support available for small and medium sized businesses in Norfolk to learn how to better use digital tools to identify business opportunities and help grow businesses. A grant of up to £500 can be applied for to help implement a digital action plan.

BEE Anglia Energy Efficiency Grants

Amount available: 40% of total project cost (or up to £20,000)

Dates: Currently open

Specialist advice and grants to support businesses in Norfolk and Suffolk to reduce their carbon footprint. Grants are available for any upgrade or improvement that achieves an adequate energy saving.

Business Growth Grant

Amount: £500-£10,000

Dates: 15 October 2021 – 31 January 2022

Grants are available to Norwich-based MSMEs (with fewer than 250 employees) for projects which support business growth. The grants will provide funding of up to 50% of the cost of improvement projects such as premises refurbishment or improving IT like card payment facilities or Wi-Fi.

Start-up grants

Amount: £1,000

Dates: Currently open

Grants to support the start-up and development of new businesses that are less than six months old. The business must be based in the South Norfolk or Broadland District Council area and operate for a minimum of 16 hours per week.

Delivering Rural Investment for Vital Employment (DRIVE)

Amount: A grant between £5,000 and £30,000 (up to 40% of total project costs)

DRIVE provides local businesses with access to a capital grant to invest in new business development that leads to job creation.

FDI and venture capital in Norfolk

The East of England performs well for average jobs created and safeguarded by each FDI project. An average of 79 foreign direct investment (FDI) projects were created in the East of England each year between 2017 and 2021. For every FDI project in the East of England, an average of 38 jobs were created between 2017/18 and 2020/21. This is broadly in line with the UK average (39 jobs per project) and outperforms many regional comparators including London (24) and the South West (30).

FDI jobs data by sector is only available at the UK level. This data suggests that the largest share of projects by sector have in software and computer services, business and consumer services and financial services. Sectors creating and safeguarding the largest number of jobs per project are wholesale, electronics and communications and automotive.

Norfolk's trade activity

Norfolk's trade activity reflects its regional economic specialisms. In 2020, the East of England was home to more than 116,000 exporting businesses. 57% of total exporting businesses in the East of England exported to countries in the EU which is slightly lower than the average for the United Kingdom (59%).

The most granular level data on trade activity is available at the port level. In 2021, Great Yarmouth exported £9.3m worth of goods in 2021 whilst King's Lynn exported £30.7m. Exports to the EU accounted for 81% of goods by value at Great Yarmouth and 83% at King's Lynn.

Breakdown by sector shows that the majority of goods exported at King's Lynn were crude materials (inedible, except fuels) which totalled £19.3m in value followed by food & live animals (£5.3m). At Great Yarmouth, the most significant export categories included food & live animals (£6.1m) and machinery & transport equipment (£1.1m).

In 2021, non-EU imports to Great Yarmouth totalled £7.3m worth of goods whilst King's Lynn imported £0.8m in goods.

Self-employment across Norfolk

Self-employment in Norfolk is low but with significant variations across the county. 9% of working age residents (aged 16-64) in Norfolk are self-employed which is slightly lower than the East of England (10%) and England (10%).

Levels of self-employment vary significantly across Norfolk. The highest levels of self-employment are seen in North Norfolk (17%) whilst the lowest levels are seen in Norwich (5%).

Percentage aged 16-64 who are self-employed (2020):

• England: 10%

• East of England: 10%

• Norfolk: 9%

North Norfolk: 17%Great Yarmouth: 11%

King's Lynn and West Norfolk: 11%

Breckland: 8%Broadland: 7%South Norfolk: 7%

• Norwich: 5%

Sole proprietors across Norfolk

Sole proprietor businesses can be used as an indicator for the level of entrepreneurship in a local economy. In Norfolk, sole proprietor businesses account for 20% of the business base. This is notably higher than the average for the East of England (14%) and England (14%).

Levels of sole proprietor ownership have fallen in all areas over the past decade. In Norfolk, sole proprietor ownership has fallen from 28% in 2010 to 20% in 2021.

Within the county sole proprietor ownership as a proportion of the business base is higher than both the East of England and England averages in all districts. The level of sole proprietor ownership is greatest in North Norfolk (23%) and lowest in Norwich (16%).

Sole proprietors as a proportion of the business base (2021):

• **England:** 14%

• East of England: 14%

• Norfolk: 20%

• North Norfolk: 23%

King's Lynn and West Norfolk: 21%

Breckland: 21%
Broadland: 20%
South Norfolk: 20%
Great Yarmouth: 20%

• Norwich: 16%

COVID-19 impact: economic output

Norfolk's Gross Value Added reduced by an estimated 11% due to the impacts of COVID-19. The latest Office for Budget Responsibility (OBR) sectoral impact estimates have been used to calculate the impacts of COVID-19 on Norfolk's economy.

It is estimated that Norfolk's Gross Value Added (GVA) was £20.4bn in 2019 and that there was a £2.2bn, or 11%, drop during 2020 which is slightly higher than for the national economy.

There are two potential scenarios for recovery in Norfolk:

- Scenario A is based on a historic 3.2% real growth rate per annum going forward.
- Scenario B is based on OBR's March 2021 growth forecast for the national economy. The OBR forecasts growth to be about 4% in 2021, 7% in 2022 and then around 1.7% thereafter.

Norfolk needs to achieve a growth rate well above its historic rate to get back to its pre-COVID trajectory over the next decade.

Losses were greatest for the sectors most affected by social distancing and lockdown restrictions. The latest Office for Budget Responsibility (OBR) sectoral impact estimates have been used to calculate the impacts of COVID-19 on Norfolk's economy.

Applying the OBR Reference Scenario to Norfolk's individual sectors shows that accommodation and food services was the worst hit sector in 2020. In 2020, the sector is modelled to have experienced an absolute loss of £536m, followed by education (£273m) and wholesale and retail (£236m). This reflects the significant contribution these sectors make to Norfolk's GVA. Conversely, public administration and defence experienced an absolute gain of £23m over this same period while other sectors experienced only small absolute losses in 2020 including information and communication (£37m) and financial and insurance activities (£38m).

Norfolk performs well in terms of short-term business survival rates. For businesses established in 2018, 90% were still operating one year later.

COVID-19 impact: business

Businesses have been particularly susceptible to closures during lockdown restrictions. The Business Impact of Coronavirus (COVID-19) Survey (BICS) provides the most up to date picture of business impacts at the regional level.

Applying these monthly results to Norfolk's economy allows estimation of the impacts of COVID-19 on the local economy.

Around 1,024 businesses in Norfolk were estimated to have paused or temporarily ceased training in July 2020. The most affected sectors by number of businesses temporarily closed included wholesale (210), construction (206) and administrative and support services (196).

The most recent data from BICS is October 2021. From this data it can be estimated that as of October 2021, around 100 businesses are paused or temporarily closed. Business insolvencies peaked at 173 in March 2020 followed by 141 in March 2021.

COVID-19 impact: employment

Claimant levels increased significantly during the pandemic exacerbating existing challenges in employment.

The Claimant Count is a measure of the number of people claiming benefits principally for the reason of being unemployed, based on administrative data from the benefits system. The Claimant Count does not attempt to measure unemployment, which is a concept defined by the International Labour Organisation (ILO) as all those who are out of work, actively seeking work and available to start work. Therefore, Claimant Count data also captures challenges such as underemployment.

As of August 2021, there were an additional 8,100 claimants in Norfolk compared to January 2020 equivalent to a 61% increase in claimants over this period. This is lower than the proportional increase seen in both the East of England (94%) and England (+85%) and of all comparators with the exception of Cumbria (+50%).

COVID-19 impact: local economy

Norfolk's businesses were reliant on financial support throughout the pandemic, although self-employed residents were less dependent than other areas.

For the period from March 2020 to June 2021 Self Employed Income Support Scheme (SEISS) claims total value £70 million in Norfolk representing 25,300 claimants or a 52% take-up rate amongst those eligible. This take-up rate is lower than both the East of England (56%) and England (58%) level.

Around 20,900 businesses in Norfolk received a combined total of £299 million in business grants of which 72% were Small Business Grant Fund allocations, 27% were Retail, Hospitality and Leisure Grant Fund and 1% were the Local Authority Discretionary Grant Fund. Within Norfolk, North Norfolk received the largest total value of claims (£53 million) followed by King's Lynn and West Norfolk (£38 million) and Norwich (£38 million).

Norfolk's people

Evidence summary

- A growing population: Population has increased by +21% since 1991 (vs 18% nationally) and is expected to grow by another +14% by 2043.
- An ageing population: 25% of people are aged 65+ (vs 19% nationally) with future population growth expected to be highest among this age group.
- A low-skilled population: Only 35% of the population has an NVQ4+ qualification (vs 43% nationally) and 7% have no qualifications at all.
- An economically active population: 81% of working age people are employed or looking for work (vs 79% nationally) but the unemployment rate (6%) is just above the national average.
- A lower wage population: Median resident earnings are £28,571 and median workplace earnings are £28,421 (vs £32,944 and £31,044 across the East of England).
- A population with deprivation challenges: 14% of neighbourhoods are within the 20% most deprived in the country. But major pockets of deprivation are found in Great Yarmouth, Norwich, King's Lynn, Thetford and some rural areas.
- A relatively homogenous population: 93% of residents were born in the UK vs 86% at the national level, with other people being born in Europe (5%), the Middle East and Asia (2%), Africa (1%), and the Americas (1%).
- A relatively healthy population: Life expectancy is above the national average but lower than regional comparators. People generally report positively on their 'Life Satisfaction' and 'Happiness'.

Norfolk's population

Norfolk has experienced a higher population growth rate than the national average rate. Norfolk is home to 914,000 people; its population has increased by 21% since 1991, compared to 22% for the East of England and 18% nationally. This is equivalent to 160,000 net additional residents in Norfolk.

Norfolk's population growth has been concentrated in older age groups (aged 65+), with this cohort growing by 23% in the last decade. This compares to 24% in the East of England and 22% nationally.

Norfolk's working age population (aged 16-64) has grown at slower rates than comparators. Over the last decade, the population aged 16-64 grew by 2% in Norfolk compared to 3% in East of England and 3% for England.

Norfolk's more rural districts have experienced the greatest population growth since 1991. The highest rates of overall growth have occurred in South Norfolk (38%), Breckland (30%) and Broadland (24%) which are all higher than the average for Norfolk (21%), East of England (22%) and England (18%).

Norfolk's population growth since 1991 has been driven by an increase in the population aged 65+ in all districts. The districts with the highest growth in the population aged 65+ include South Norfolk (32%), Breckland (29%) and Broadland (25%).

The change in the working age population (aged 16-64) has been highest in South Norfolk (11%) and Norwich (7%) which are both higher than the levels seen in Norfolk (2%), East of England (3%) and England (3%). Conversely, King's Lynn and West Norfolk (-4%), Great Yarmouth (-4%) and North Norfolk (-3%) have all seen decline in their working age populations.

Norfolk's population profile

Norfolk's working age population (aged 16-64) accounts for 58% of the total population which is lower than either the East of England (61%) or England (62%). The population aged 65+, in contrast, accounts for 25% of Norfolk's total population which is higher than both East of England (20%) and England (19%) figures.

King's Lynn and West Norfolk has the largest population in Norfolk (151,200 people) followed by South Norfolk (143,000) and Norwich (142,200).

The working age population (aged 16-64) accounts for 68% of the total population in Norwich which is notably higher than the averages in Norfolk (58%), the East of England (61%) and England (62%). At the other end of the scale, the population aged 65+ represents the largest share of residents in North Norfolk (34%) compared to 25%, 20% and 19% at the Norfolk, East of England and England.

The population aged 0 to 15 is greatest in Great Yarmouth (18%), King's Lynn and West Norfolk (18%) and South Norfolk (18%). This is slightly above the average for Norfolk (17%) but lower than averages for both the East of England (19%) and England (19%).

Total population (2020):

King's Lynn and West Norfolk: 151,245

• **South Norfolk**: 143,066

Norwich: 142,177
Breckland: 141,255
Broadland: 131,931
North Norfolk: 105,167
Great Yarmouth: 99,198

Population by age group (2020):

Location	Age 0-15	Age 16-64	Age 65+
England	19%	62%	19%
East of England	19%	61%	20%
Norfolk	17%	58%	25%
Breckland	17%	57%	25%
Broadland	16%	58%	26%
Great Yarmouth	18%	57%	25%
King's Lynn and	18%	56%	26%
West Norfolk			
North Norfolk	14%	53%	34%
Norwich	17%	68%	15%
South Norfolk	18%	58%	24%

Young people and working age residents are concentrated in Norwich, King's Lynn, Great Yarmouth and some of Norfolk's market towns such as Attleborough, Downham Market and Thetford. Older residents (aged 65+) predominantly reside along Norfolk's coastline, including in places like Hunstanton, Wells-next-the-Sea, Cromer and Caister-on-Sea.

Norfolk's future population

Norfolk's demographic profile is projected to become further entrenched, with population growth expected to be driven by retirees. Norfolk's population is projected to increase to 1.02 million by 2043. This is equivalent to 14% growth which is higher than expected for the East of England (10%) and England (10%).

Over this period the highest rate of population growth is expected in Norfolk's population aged 65+ (42%). The working age population (aged 16-64) is projected to increase by only 6% in Norfolk, although this is higher than both East of England (3%) and England (4%).

Population growth is forecast to be highest amongst older people in rural districts. Population projections from 2018 until 2043 indicate that the highest rates of population growth are expected to be in South Norfolk (28%), Breckland (18%) and Broadland (17%) which are all significantly above the Norfolk (14%), East of England (10%) and England (10%) averages for this period.

Growth in the population aged 65+ is forecast to be highest in South Norfolk (54%) and Breckland (51%) which are both above the East of England (43%) and national averages (45%). The working age population (aged 16-64) is projected to decline in only King's Lynn and West Norfolk (-4%) and Great Yarmouth (-2%) which differs from the increases expected at the East of England (3%) and England (4%) levels.

The population aged 0-15 is projected to increase in South Norfolk (18%), Broadland (10%) and Breckland (6%) while this age group is expected to decline overall at the East of England (-1%) and England (-1%) levels.

Norfolk's skills

The percent of the population with higher education qualifications is lower in Norfolk than the national average:

- 35% of residents hold NVQ Level 4+ qualifications which is lower than both the East of England (39%) and England (43%)
- 7% of residents hold no qualifications which is higher than both the East of England (6%) and England (6%)
- 53% of residents hold qualifications between NVQ Level 1 to NVQ Level 3 qualifications which is higher than both the East of England (50%) and England (45%).

Norfolk's skills and qualifications attainment varies across the county. While almost half (47%) of residents in South Norfolk hold degree level qualifications, only 18% hold the equivalent in Great Yarmouth. This compares to 39% in the East of England and 43% in England.

The proportion of residents holding no qualifications is highest in Great Yarmouth (11%) compared to a much lower level in South Norfolk (4%). These rates compare to 6% in the East of England and 6% in England.

The proportion of residents holding low and mid-level qualifications (NVQ Level 1 to Level 3) also varies across the county. 70% of residents in Great Yarmouth hold qualifications at this level compared to the lowest levels in Norwich (47%).

Qualification levels by district (2020):

District	NVQ4+	NVQ3	NVQ2	NVQ1	Other	None
England	43%	18%	17%	10%	6%	6%
Breckland	37%	20%	22%	13%	2%	7%
Broadland	36%	20%	19%	12%	7%	6%
Great Yarmouth	18%	28%	24%	18%	2%	11%
King's Lynn and	26%	20%	22%	16%	10%	7%
West Norfolk						
North Norfolk	35%	18%	19%	14%	8%	7%
Norwich	41%	23%	14%	10%	6%	7%
South Norfolk	47%	21%	15%	13%	1%	4%

Norfolk's educational attainment

Educational attainment in Norfolk is lower than all comparator areas. In 2019, only 60% of KS2 pupils in Norfolk reached the expected standard in reading, writing and mathematics. This is lower than the average for the East of England (64%) and England (65%). At KS4, pupils in Norfolk achieved an average Attainment 8 score of 49.2, which is again lower than both the East of England (50.3) and England (50.2) averages.

The Participation of Local Areas (POLAR) classification groups areas across the UK based on the proportion of young people who participate in higher education. Norfolk has an average POLAR4 quintile score of 2.3 which is lower than the East of England (3.0) and England (3.1) averages – indicating that the rate of participation of young people in higher education in Norfolk is below average. Within Norfolk, the rate of higher education participation is particularly low in Great Yarmouth (1.5) and King's Lynn and West Norfolk (1.7).

Average POLAR4 quintile score:

• **England:** 3.1

• East of England: 3.0

• Norfolk: 2.3

South Norfolk: 3.4
Broadland: 2.8
Norwich: 2.6
North Norfolk: 2.5
Breckland: 2.0

• King's Lynn and West Norfolk: 1.7

• Great Yarmouth: 1.5

In 2019 pupil attainment at GCSE is similar to national average with 63% passing English and Mathematics, compared to 64.6% nationally. Children make better than average progress at secondary school, but a legacy of underachievement at primary school results in fewer children attaining higher grades compared to national figures.

Attainment 8 measures the progress across a student's eight best performing subjects. Norfolk is in line with the national average for English and Mathematics (65% England vs. 62% Norfolk). Norfolk is also in line in Attainment 8 (England 47% vs. 45% Norfolk).

Norfolk's Higher Education (HE) and Further Education colleges

Norfolk's HE providers perform similarly to regional and national averages. The growth in total student enrolment across Norfolk's HE providers is lower than in the

East of England, at 13% compared to 16%. However, it is above the national average of 9%.

Norfolk is home to two universities and five Further Education colleges. The Norwich University of Arts (NUA) has consistently been ranked in the UK Top 25 Universities over the past five years and has a high proportion of students enrolling onto Creative Arts and Design courses (79%). The University of East Anglia (UEA) has a broader range of popular subjects, with 19% of students studying Business and Management which is also the most popular subject across the East of England. 15% of students studied social sciences subjects, and 13% studied subjects allied to medicine.

The level of qualification obtained at UEA broadly aligns with regional and national averages. However, at NUA, much fewer students study postgraduate degrees at just 10%, compared to 39% in England.

Level of qualification obtained (2019-20):

Location	First degree	Other undergraduate	Total postgraduate
University of East Anglia	52%	7%	41%
Norwich University of the Arts	81%	9%	10%
East of England	51%	7%	40%
England	53%	6%	39%

Norfolk's graduates

Graduates are well retained in the region, with large percentages entering the workforce. The East of England retains a large proportion of undergraduates who have studied in the region, with 48% of graduates (from Norfolk universities) remaining in the East of England to work. The largest outflow of graduates outside of the region is to London, with 26% of graduates, followed by the Southwest with 10% of graduates. However, there is a large proportion of 18-25 who although have grown up in Norfolk move elsewhere for higher education.

Graduate outcomes from Norfolk's higher education providers are broadly in line with regional and national averages, with most graduates entering full or part time employment. However, Norwich University of Arts has a lower percentage of graduates in full time employment at 48% compared to 56% in England, but a higher percentage of graduates in part-time employment at 29% compared to 11% in England.

Norfolk's health and wellbeing

Life expectancy in Norfolk is above the national average but below that for regional comparators. Male life expectancy in Norfolk is 80.1 years and female life expectancy is 83.9 years. Life expectancy for both male and female Norfolk residents is below the East of England average with significant variations across the county. Some of the lowest life expectancies are seen in Norfolk's main cities and towns, while life expectancy for both genders is higher in more rural locations.

Wellbeing levels in Norfolk are largely in line with regional averages. Measures of personal wellbeing for residents at the Norfolk level indicate:

- Life satisfaction is above average with residents reporting 7.9 compared to the East of England (7.7) and England (7.7).
- Resident feeling that things done are worthwhile is in line with averages with Norfolk scoring 7.9 compared to the East of England (7.9) and England (7.9).
- Resident happiness is slightly below average at 7.4 compared to the East of England (7.5) and England (7.5) averages.
- Resident anxiety is higher than average at 3.3 in Norfolk compared to the East of England (3.0) and England (3.1) averages.

In terms of physical activity, Norfolk performs in line with East of England and England averages:

- 48% of Norfolk's adult residents walk or cycle at least three times a week which is in line with the East of England (48%) and England (48%).
- 25% of Norfolk's adult residents undertake less than 30 minutes of physical activity per week which is also in line with the East of England (25%) and England (25%).

Life satisfaction (2019-20):

• England: 7.7

• East of England: 7.7

• **Norfolk**: 7.8

North Norfolk: 8.0
Great Yarmouth: 7.9
South Norfolk: 7.9

• King's Lynn and West Norfolk: 7.8

Breckland: 7.7Broadland: 7.6Norwich: 7.4

Access to Norfolk's health services varies geographically. Health services within the county are concentrated in Norwich, King's Lynn, and Great Yarmouth. In the Norwich and Great Yarmouth districts, 100% and 96% of service users respectively are within 30 minutes by public transport/walking to a GP service. However, in the districts of North Norfolk and South Norfolk this figure falls to just below 80%.

The percentage of users within 30 minutes of hospitals by public transport/walking is lower. Great Yarmouth records the highest percentage at 37%, but in Breckland, Broadland, and North Norfolk, 0% of users are within 30 minutes of hospitals by public transport/walking.

Percentage of users within 30 minutes of GP services by public transport/walking (2019):

• Norwich: 100%

• Great Yarmouth: 96%

• Broadland: 88%

• King's Lynn and West Norfolk: 87%

Breckland: 82%North Norfolk: 82%South Norfolk: 82%

Percentage of users within 30 minutes of hospitals by public transport/walking (2019):

• Great Yarmouth: 37%

• King's Lynn and West Norfolk: 26%

Norwich: 25%
South Norfolk: 7%
Breckland: 0%
Broadland: 0%
North Norfolk: 0%

Norfolk's economic activity rates

Norfolk has an economically active population with pockets of unemployment. Norfolk has a large labour market as a proportion of total residents in the county. Economically active residents account for 81% of the population, which is higher than the economic activity rate for both the East of England (80%) and England (79%). Despite this, Norfolk has a higher unemployment rate (6%) compared to the East of England (4%) and England (5%).

A long-term overview of claimant count demonstrates that the rate of claimants in Norfolk has consistently been in line or below the national average for England. Claimant count in Norfolk has however remained above the levels in comparator areas.

Economic activity rates are highest in Broadland (85%) and Breckland (85%) which are both higher than the Norfolk (81%) average. Conversely, Great Yarmouth has an

economic activity rate of 72% which is significantly lower than all other districts and the East of England (80%) and England (79%) averages.

Unemployment rates are also highest in Great Yarmouth (10%). All Norfolk districts have a higher unemployment rate than the England average (5%), with the exception of King's Lynn and West Norfolk (5%).

A long-term view of claimant count demonstrates that the levels of claimants in Great Yarmouth have been persistently higher than the national average, with Norwich claimant counts fluctuating around the levels seen across England.

Economic activity rate (2020):

• England: 79%

• East of England: 80%

Norfolk: 81%Broadland: 85%Breckland: 85%Norwich: 83%

• King's Lynn and West Norfolk: 82%

North Norfolk: 78%
South Norfolk: 77%
Great Yarmouth: 72%

Unemployment rate (2020):

• England: 4.9%

• East of England: 4.0%

• Norfolk: 6.0%

Great Yarmouth: 9.9%
North Norfolk: 7.3%
Breckland: 6.7%
Broadland: 6.0%
Norwich: 5.4%

King's Lynn and West Norfolk: 4.8%
South Norfolk: N/A (sample size too low)

Norfolk's occupational profile

A higher proportion of Norfolk's residents work in low and medium skilled occupations. Using Standard Occupation Classifications (SOC) from the ONS, it is possible to use the occupational profile to obtain an approximation of jobs that are typically considered to be high, medium and low skill:

- High skill (SOC 1-3): these roles mostly require graduate level education to access
- Medium skill (SOC 4-6): these roles mostly require a Level 3-5 qualification
- Low skill (SOC 7-9): these roles mostly require a Level 2 qualification or below

High skill occupations account for the largest share of employment in Norfolk (42%) although this is lower than that in the East of England (48%) and England (50%). A higher proportion of Norfolk's residents work in middle skill occupations (35%) than is seen at the East of England (30%) and England (28%) level.

South Norfolk and Norwich have the largest proportion of high skilled occupations at 53% and 48% respectively. However, Norwich also has the second highest proportion of low skilled occupations at 26%, behind Broadland with 29%.

Occupational profile by district (2020):

Location	High skill	Medium skill	Low skill
Breckland	43%	36%	21%
Broadland	32%	39%	29%
Great Yarmouth	38%	40%	22%
King's Lynn and	41%	40%	19%
West Norfolk			
North Norfolk	38%	37%	25%
Norwich	48%	25%	26%
South Norfolk	53%	32%	15%

Norfolk's earnings

Earnings in Norfolk are low with little variation in resident and workplace earnings.

Norfolk's residents earned an average annual salary of £28,571 in 2020 which is lower than both the East of England (£32,944) and England (£31,766). Average workplace earnings in Norfolk were £28,424 in 2020 which is also lower than both the East of England (£31,044) and England (£31,777). Norfolk's relatively low earnings for both residents and in the workplace suggests fewer opportunities for access to higher value and higher wage jobs compared to other parts of the country.

Within Norfolk, resident and workplace earnings in 2020 were highest in Broadland at £32,070 and £29,861 respectively. Meanwhile, resident and workplace earnings were lowest in Breckland at £26,613 and £26,597 respectively.

Norfolk's deprivation

Norfolk's deprivation is widespread with particular challenges in education and skills. Norfolk is particularly deprived in terms of education, skills and training, with 39% of all neighbourhoods* in Norfolk falling within the top 30% most deprived

neighbourhoods nationally. Norfolk also faces challenges in deprivation related to Barriers to Housing and Services (34%) and Living Environment (32%).

Mapping of the Index of Multiple Deprivation demonstrates that Norfolk's deprivation is most concentrated in Norwich and some of its major towns, including Great Yarmouth, King's Lynn and Thetford. Norfolk's rural areas also face challenges relating to deprivation.

*Neighbourhoods are defined by Lower Super Output Area (LSOA) statistical geographies equivalent to around 1,500 residents per LSOA.

Norfolk's diversity and immigration

Inward migration is an important part of Norfolk's economy, but numbers have fallen since 2020. Between 2013 and 2020, Norfolk hosted 48,500 economic migrants*. Of these, 15,500 (or 32%) were hosted in Norwich, followed by King's Lynn and West Norfolk (19%) and Breckland (18%).

EU migration in Norfolk accounted for around 38,300 migrants over this period which is equivalent to 79% of total National Insurance Number registrations. This is higher than the UK average over this same period (69%).

Change in EU NINO registrations in Norfolk between 2019 and 2020 demonstrates a sharp decline of around 3,500 registrations (-78%) which is greater than the UK average (-75%).

Country of birth (2011):

Location	UK	Ireland	Other Europe	Africa	Middle East and Asia	The Americas and Caribbean
England	86%	1%	4%	2%	5%	1%
East of England	89%	1%	4%	2%	3%	1%
Norfolk	93%	0%	3%	1%	2%	1%
Breckland	91%	0%	5%	1%	1%	1%
Broadland	96%	0%	2%	1%	1%	0%
Great Yarmouth	93%	0%	4%	1%	1%	0%
King's Lynn and West Norfolk	92%	0%	4%	1%	1%	1%
North Norfolk	96%	0%	2%	1%	1%	0%
Norwich	87%	1%	5%	2%	4%	1%
South Norfolk	95%	0%	2%	1%	1%	1%

Norfolk's crime rates

Norfolk has a low overall crime rate, but challenges are concentrated in its main urban conurbations. In 2019, Norfolk's crime rate of 72 crimes per 1,000 residents is notably lower than the East of England (80) and England (83) average.

Over this same period, Norwich had the highest crime rate (147) followed by Great Yarmouth (122) with the map below showing concentrations of crimes committed within these urban areas. All other districts in Norfolk had crime rates below the East of England and England averages.

Crime rate per 1,000 population (2019):

• Norwich: 147

• Great Yarmouth: 122

• King's Lynn and West Norfolk: 68

Breckland: 63
North Norfolk: 49
South Norfolk: 47
Broadland: 44

Norfolk's places

Evidence summary

- House prices are relatively low. Median house prices are £240k which is below the national average (£250k).
- **Public transport is weak.** For example, Swaffham is accessible to 259,000 people by car within 45 minutes but only 8,000 by public transport.
- **Crime rates are low:** there are 72 crimes per 1,000 people annually vs 82 at the national level, 104 in Cambridgeshire and 90 in East Sussex.
- Commercial property availability is limited: vacancy rates are low for light industrial (<2%), industrial (<6%) and office premises (<2%)
- Commercial property is poor quality. Only 2% of industrial, 7% of light industrial and 6% of office space is Grade A and B vs 11%, 3% and 29% nationally.
- Most places are digitally connected. Only 1% of premises are below the Universal Service Obligation and 93% have access to superfast broadband.
- **Ultrafast connectivity is limited**. Only 30% of premises have access to ultrafast broadband vs 60% at the national level.

 Water and electricity supply is a constraint. The Environment Agency and UK Power Networks confirm supply constraints which will limit housing, commercial and business investment in the county

Norfolk's commercial property

There is around 54 million sq ft of commercial floorspace within Norfolk, which is comprised of:

- 26,400,000 sq ft industrial
- 17,000,000 sq ft retail
- 8,700,000 sq ft office
- 2,200,000 sq ft light industrial

Light industrial and retail floorspace have experienced the strongest growth since 2011 with the former expanding from a small base. With the exception of light industrial, Norfolk's commercial property stock offers far lower proportions of high quality floorspace than both the East of England and England averages.

Commercial property inventory by type (2020):

Location	Industrial	Light industrial	Office	Retail
England	49	5	22	24
East of England	52	5	19	24
Norfolk	49	4	16	31

Industrial

The vacancy rates of industrial properties in Norfolk have historically been lower than across the East of England and England. Despite this, rates increased since 2018 to stand at 6% in 2020 which was above the average for the East of England (4%) and England (3%).

The rent per sq ft of industrial space is well below regional and national comparators. In 2020, the rent per sq ft of industrial space was £5.16 which is just 69% of the price of the East of England average (£7.51). Rents have however increased over the last ten years by around 35%.

The quality of industrial property in Norfolk will influence this low value, as well as other factors such as location and public transport connectivity. In 2020, just 0.2% of industrial property in the country was classified as Grade A-B, which is considerably lower than both the English and East of England averages of 11%. All the vacant industrial space is older and lower-quality space which is in low demand versus higher-quality units.

Light industrial

Norfolk's light industrial vacancy rates have decreased from 10% in 2011 to just 2%, which reflects trends at the East of England and England levels.

The quality of Norfolk's light industrial stock is higher than the English and East of England averages - in 2020 7% was Grade A-B versus 3% at the East of England and England levels. This is being driven by South Norfolk (which is home to Hethel Engineering Centre) where 59% of light industrial property is Grade A-B.

Light industrial rents per sq ft have remained fairly constant over the last decade rising by only 28p from £4.11 per sq ft in 2011 to £4.39 per sq ft in 2020. This is roughly half of both the English (£9.55 in 2020) and the East of England averages (£9.96 in 2020).

Office property

Norfolk's office vacancy rates have decreased from 7% in 2011 to just 2% in 2020. The East of England and England have seen a similar trends, but as of 2020 vacancy rates in these areas were higher than in Norfolk at 3% and 5% respectively. Office deals/transactions did fall in 2020/21 as a result of COVID-19 but occupancy remains relatively stable at present. This will need to be monitored carefully as more data becomes available.

Despite the low vacancy rates in Norfolk, office rent per sq ft has remained stagnant and below the English and East of England averages since 2011. As of 2020, the rent per sq ft in Norfolk was £11.02 (an increase of £1.44 since 2011), whereas in both East of England and England this figure was considerably higher at £19.02 and £29.65. The low rate may reflect the fact that only 6% of office property is Grade A-B versus 11% and 29% at the national levels.

Retail property

Retail occupancy remains relatively stable despite macro-economic pressures facing the retail market. The vacancy rate of retail property in Norfolk has reduced from 3% in 2011 to 2% in 2020. In both the East of England and England, this trend is replicated, with vacancy rates in both areas falling from 4% in 2011 to 2% in 2020.

The quality of retail property in Norfolk is slightly below the English and East of England averages, with 11% of properties in Norfolk rated Grade A-B in 2020, compared to 12% in the East of England and 13% in England. Within Norfolk, Norwich has a relatively high proportion of high-quality retail units which reflects its relatively recent commercial developments.

Retail property quality by district (2020):

• **England:** 13%

• East of England: 12%

Norfolk: 11%Norwich: 19%

• South Norfolk: 12%

• Breckland: 9%

• Great Yarmouth: 7%

• King's Lynn and West Norfolk: 6%

Broadland: 2%North Norfolk: 1%

Norfolk's housing

The median house price in Norfolk is £240k which is below the East of England (£290k) and England average (£250k).

The house price affordability ratio measures the (median) cost of house prices relative to (median) workplace-based earnings. House prices in Norfolk in 2020 were 8.2 times higher than the average salary. This is lower than the average for the East of England (9.4) but higher than the average for England (7.8).

House prices in Norfolk have increased by 48% since 2010. This is lower than the house price growth seen across the East of England (57%) but higher than the level seen nationally (42%).

All seven districts in Norfolk have a geographical coverage of at least 99.9% for 4G outdoor operator signal. In Great Yarmouth, King's Lynn and West Norfolk and Norwich, 100% of the area has access to at least one 4G operator.

Norfolk's functional geography

According to the most recently available data from the Census (2011), around 308,000 people commute into Norfolk for work. However, around 318,000 people commute out of the county, meaning that Norfolk has a net outflow of around 10,000 people. Approximately 3,200 people were recorded commuting into Greater London for work in the 2011 census data.

Jobs density refers to the number of jobs per resident of working age (aged 16-64). Norfolk's jobs density is 0.82, meaning that there are enough jobs within the county to provide work to 82% of working age residents. This is below both the East of England (0.86) and England (0.88) averages.

Within Norfolk, the highest concentration of jobs is in Norwich (jobs density 1.11) and lowest in Breckland (0.69).

Norfolk's transport connectivity

Norwich has the largest catchment with 425,000 people reached by car and 158,000 people by public transport. Public transport connectivity within Norfolk's towns is limited. More than 10 times the number of people are able to reach Great Yarmouth by car compared to by public transport, with this figure rising to 31 times in Swaffham.

45-minute travel time catchments from Norfolk's key centres:

Location	Can reach by public transport	Can reach by car
Great Yarmouth	33,000 (of which 20,000 are WAP (working age population))	280,000 (166,000 WAP)
Norwich	158,000 (of which 102,000 are WAP)	425,000 (262,000 WAP)
Swaffham	8,300 (of which 4,200 are WAP)	259,000 (148,000 WAP)

Norfolk's infrastructure assets

- University of East Anglia
- Norwich Research Park
- Norfolk and Norwich University Hospital
- Norwich Airport
- Food Enterprise Park
- Hethel Engineering Centre
- Scottow Enterprise Park
- City College Norwich
- Great Yarmouth Port
- King's Lynn Port
- Snetterton Business Park
- Egmere Business Hub
- Bacton Gas Terminal
- King's Lynn Power Station
- Great Yarmouth Power Station
- Sheringham Shoal Offshore Wind Farm
- Dudgeon Offshore Wind Farm
- Norfolk Vanguard Offshore Wind Farm (proposed)
- Norfolk Boreas Offshore Wind Farm (proposed)

Norfolk's digital connectivity

Only 1% of premises in Norfolk are below the Universal Service Obligation (USO)* for broadband. 93% of premises can access Superfast broadband (equivalent to >30

Mbps download speed) which is slightly below the level for the East of England (95%) and England (95%).

Despite a good level of broadband accessibility, only 30% of premises in Norfolk can access the highest broadband speeds provided by Ultrafast broadband (>300 Mbps) which is lower than both the East of England (55%) and England (60%). Gigabit broadband is currently available in 63% of UK premises, compared to only 5% of premises in Great Yarmouth, King's Lynn and West Norfolk and North Norfolk (Norfolk's worst performing districts) and 22% in Breckland (Norfolk's best performing district).

*The USO for broadband is equivalent to a download speed of at least 10 Mbps and upload speed of 1 Mbps.

Connectivity levels:

Location	Below the USO	Superfast broadband	Ultrafast broadband
England	1%	95%	60%
East of England	1%	95%	55%
Norfolk	1%	93%	30%
Breckland	2%	90%	14%
Broadland	1%	94%	43%
Great Yarmouth	1%	97%	50%
King's Lynn and West Norfolk	1%	91%	11%
North Norfolk	2%	91%	4%
Norwich	0%	99%	85%
South Norfolk	1%	91%	14%

Norfolk's visitor economy

Norfolk's visitor economy was worth £3.42bn in 2019. Potential growth markets include:

- Experiential tourism: 37% of domestic visitors choose a destination because of the experiences it offers (VisitEngland, 2019)
- Off-season: Rural tourism businesses report 10-15% of demand in January to March, 25-30% April to June, 30-50% July to September and 15-20% October to December. Similar patterns are observed in important coastal resorts, including Great Yarmouth
- Sustainable tourism: Sustrans estimates that leisure and tourism cycling on the National Cycle Network contributes £650m a year to the UK economy and supports over 15,000 jobs (<u>Economic impact of the National Cycle Network</u>).
 A Department for Transport study found that cycle tourists spend around 9%

- more per trip than the average visitor, with the average cycling spend being £81 per trip.
- Cultural tourism: The cultural sector of Norfolk and Suffolk contributed £272 million in GVA in 2018 and grew by 16% since 2015. (Source: <u>Culture Drives Impact Manifesto</u>, 2022, for the New Anglia LEP Culture Board)

Tourism related employment (2019):

• 69,000 jobs, equivalent to 52,000 full-time jobs

• Tourism as a percentage of all employment: 19.5%

Total staying trips: 3,164,000
Total staying nights: 12,642,000

• Total day trips: 48,835,000

Total tourism value by district (2019):

Breckland: £186mBroadland: £182m

• **Great Yarmouth:** £649m

• King's Lynn and West Norfolk: £434m

North Norfolk: £529mNorwich: £774m

• South Norfolk: £240m

Norfolk's night time economy

Norfolk's employment in the night time economy is significant particularly for Great Yarmouth and North Norfolk. The night time economy is defined as all activity that operates between 6pm and 6am. There are four types of night time activity as defined by the Greater London Authority's Night Time Economy Data and Research Group:

- Culture and leisure activities (hotels, restaurants, pubs, creative, arts, sports etc and occupations that support them)
- Activities that support night time cultural and leisure activities (retail, passenger transport etc and occupations that support them)
- 24-hour health and personal services (hospitals, residential care etc and occupations that support them)
- Activities that support wider economic and social activities (eg manufacturing, warehousing, books, motion pictures, music publishing etc and occupations that support them)

Norfolk has a higher proportion of employment within the night time economy (17% of all jobs) compared to the East of England (15%) and England (15%). Within

Norfolk, the night time economy contributes most significantly to employment in Great Yarmouth (27%) and North Norfolk (25%).

Norfolk's living environment and emissions

Norfolk performs poorly across a range of healthy living environment indicators, with these challenges concentrated in urban areas.

The Access to Healthy Assets and Hazards Index (AHAH) ranks neighbourhoods* according to their performance across a range of measures related to 'healthy' neighbourhoods and the quality of the living environment. The four domains that comprise the index are:

- Retail environment (access to fast food outlets, pubs, off-licences, tobacconists, gambling outlets)
- Health services (access to GPs, hospitals, pharmacies, dentists, leisure services)
- Physical environment (blue space, green space (active), green space (passive))
- Air quality (nitrogen dioxide, particulate matter 10, sulphur dioxide)

Measured by the AHAH index 26% of Norfolk's neighbourhoods fall within the top 10% worst performing nationally. Broken down by domain, the proportion of neighbourhoods in Norfolk ranked within the top 10% worst performing nationally is particularly high for health services (34%) and the physical environment (32%). These factors are more likely to be a challenge for Norwich and other large towns in Norfolk such as Thetford, Great Yarmouth and King's Lynn.

The highest level of NOx emissions (exceeding 50 tonnes) in Norfolk are along main transport corridors of A47 and A11 running through King's Lynn, Norwich and Great Yarmouth. CO2 emissions exceeding 12,000 tonnes demonstrate a similar pattern across Norfolk with particularly high concentrations in Great Yarmouth and King's Lynn.

Norfolk's energy infrastructure

Energy Sector Recovery and Resilience Plan New Anglia LEP (May 2021)

This document is the plan for the role of Norfolk & Suffolk's energy sector in terms of COVID-19 recovery and long-term contribution to the transition to green energy. Norfolk & Suffolk have the potential to supply up to 50% of the UK's 40GW target by 2030, with the proposed new power station at Sizewell expected to meet 7% of the country's demand.

- Offshore wind: Norfolk and Suffolk are part of the UK's largest offshore wind cluster. IN 2020, the coastal zone is home to 4.6GW or 44% of the UK's operational offshore wind power. The ports of Lowestoft and Great Yarmouth provide world-class operations and maintenance with over 50 years supporting the offshore gas industry and have become strategic for the offshore wind sector. The Enterprise Zone status of Lowestoft and Great Yarmouth provides land to develop manufacturing facilities and house supply chain companies.
- Oil and gas: The Southern North Sea (SNS) is the UK's natural gas basin with a third of the UK's domestic gas requirements handled at the Bacton Gas Terminal in North Norfolk. The region is well place to receive a significant proportion of the predicted £2.5 billion to decommissioning redundant SNS assets to 2030. New and innovative technologies are being investigated including offshore desalination for hydrogen fuel production and carbon capture and storage. Bacton also has scope to be developed into a major innovation and demonstration project (Bacton 2.0) for new energy, including hydrogen production for London and the South East.
- Nuclear: Suffolk is home to three nuclear power stations including the proposed Sizewell C nuclear new build project. Sizewell C is projected to generate significant spend in the East of England and its construction will employ close to 24,000 directly and indirectly in its supply chain.
- Onshore renewables and energy systems: Norfolk and Suffolk is a leading area for onshore renewables including animal waste biomass. A third of the national capacity is in two large plants at Thetford and Eye power stations. The region's sizeable agri-food sector, animal waste and biomass present a significant opportunity for sustainable energy generation.

Norfolk Strategic Infrastructure Delivery Plan (2020)

Norfolk County Council identifies and outlines key infrastructure needed to deliver economic growth in Norfolk, with a number of growth areas identified in need of energy infrastructure support:

- Thetford: two major areas of committed growth at the Thetford Sustainable
 Urban Extension (SUE) and Thetford Enterprise Park (TEP) are coming
 forward to deliver 5,000 dwellings and 22.5 ha of commercial land. A Primary
 Substation to be located at Thetford SUE is to serve the 5,000 dwellings and
 commercial properties at TEP. Further network reinforcement works
 estimated to cost £6.5m will be required to serve the TEP in the long-term.
- Attleborough: The Attleborough Sustainable Urban Extension (SUE) is allocated with outline planning permission for 4,000 dwellings and 10 ha of commercial land. The delivery of power infrastructure to meet the long-term power needs of Attleborough SUE is estimated to cost £22m.
- Snetterton: an excess of 150 acres of undeveloped/underdeveloped employment land at Snetterton Heath is being assessed to identify further

infrastructure projects which may be required to support major developments on Breckland's largest employment site.

Water Resources East Briefing Pack for Regional Planning Conferences (August 2021)

Norfolk is one of the driest regions in the UK. Water Resources East forecast future demand for water across commercial and residential uses. Challenges include:

Agri-food

- The UK has potential to become a global leader in water-friendly food production with farms in the East of England already major growers of a significant proportion of the nation's food derived from fruit and vegetable crops, potatoes and sugar beat. Agricultural produce is also delivered into a food processing industry that is the UK's largest manufacturing sector.
- The agri-food sector is expected to face challenges due to limited future water availability – with significant variation across different catchments. Projected growth in the need for spray irrigation by 2050 in the region could be impacted by the Environment Agency's agri-food sustainability reductions. This is forecast to have no impacts in some catchments but lead to the loss of onethird of all currently available water in others.
- The sector is also vulnerable to climate change. Around one-third of the WRE farmed area is vulnerable to flood risk; with high value fruit and vegetable production concentrated in these areas.
- More work is needed across a multi-sector approach to understand and plan for accommodating future water needs for agri-food, particularly given the highly fragmented and rurally isolated nature of the farming sector.

Energy

- Thermal Power Stations in the region use water extraction primarily for cooling. The transition to net zero in the UK will increase demand for electricity most of which will be provided by renewables but with continuation of reliance on nuclear, thermal power and alternative fuels. There is no sector plan for water. Water abstraction restrictions could limit developer choice of technology and lead to projects being perceived as too risky or insufficiently rewarding, cutting off routes to net zero, limiting security of supply and/or impacting future costs for the customer.
- The energy transformation to net zero is likely to result in higher freshwater demands from the power sector. The sector has no plan and current and future developments will need secure access to water to provide power.
 Future development of power assets is likely to be required both inland and at the coast.

Public water supply

- Sustainability reductions to reduce abstraction volumes and potential impacts on waterbodies, drought resilience, climate change and achieving net zero carbon emissions by 2030 are all challenges facing the public water supply.
- Population growth, combined with the region as being the driest in the UK and the effect of COVID-19 on a redistributed population are all pressures on future water demands. Future supply options.

Anglian Water: Water Resources Management Plan (2019)

This report promotes the efficient and effective use of available resources through a demand management programme that aims to reduce leakage by 22% by 2025 and 42% by 2045, with average per capita consumption falling to 120 l/h/d by 2045. the plan considers improving resilience of public water supply by adapting to climate change, the delivery of a wider resilience strategy by diversification of water supply and enhancement of the environment by reduction in abstraction in sensitive areas.

Supply-demand forecasts estimate that the baseline supply will be from a net surplus to net deficit by 2025, with 60% of the impact to be experienced by 2025. Climate change and population growth will further exacerbate the challenges posed.

Focus on Norfolk's districts

The county boasts vibrant villages, beautiful market towns and the historic city of Norwich. These are all contained within the county's seven districts:

- King's Lynn and West Norfolk
- Breckland
- North Norfolk
- Broadland
- Norwich
- South Norfolk
- Great Yarmouth

A framework has been created to understand the need for investment and main opportunities to drive transformative economic and social change in each of Norfolk's districts. The framework is based on three broad assessment areas:

- Function: What is the economic function and role of each district and what contribution to they make to the county's economy?
- Need: To what extent is investment needed in each district to overcome socio-economic challenges and issues?
- Opportunity: What is the nature of local economic aspiration and what is the headroom for future growth? The following pages look at each of these assessment areas in turn before providing conclusions related to both need

and opportunity. The conclusions will help inform decision making about where investment can make the biggest difference as part of the Investment Framework. The exercise could be repeated in the future at a more granular level to understand need and opportunity for towns and cities.

Function

Norwich, King's Lynn and West Norfolk, and South Norfolk account for higher numbers of jobs and businesses compared to other districts, as well as a greater proportion of working age residents. Great Yarmouth, Broadland and North Norfolk all support a lower number of jobs and businesses, although in relative terms North Norfolk has a higher job density. Norwich, Broadland and King's Lynn and West Norfolk have higher levels of Gross Value Added (GVA) than other districts. This implies higher levels of productivity generated by their local economies.

Location	Population (2020)	Number of jobs	Number of businesses	GVA (2019)	% of working age residents (2020)	Jobs to people ratio (2019)
Breckland	141,255	56,610	6,005	2,471	57	0.69
Broadland	131,931	56,150	5,530	3,463	58	0.78
Great Yarmouth	99,198	40,610	3,585	1,793	57	0.76
KLWN	151,245	67,140	6,535	3,085	56	0.78
North Norfolk	105,167	39,810	4,920	1,617	53	0.78
Norwich	142,177	98,240	6,410	4,224	68	1.11
South Norfolk	143,066	69,400	6,520	2,809	58	0.78

Need

Broadland and South Norfolk demonstrate lower levels of need in terms of social mobility, life expectancy, median wages, and deprivation. Great Yarmouth performs the worst for deprivation and qualification levels whilst Breckland displays the worst level of social mobility and the lowest median wage.

Location	% of population in 20% most deprived (2019)	% of people with no qualifications (2019)	Male life expectancy at birth (2019)	Female life expectancy at birth (2019)	Social mobility ranking (2017) out of 346 local authorities	Median wages (2020)
Breckland	10	7	79	84	300	£26,597
Broadland	0	6	81	85	93	£29,861
Great Yarmouth	40	11	78	83	293	£29,351
KLWN	15	7	80	83	297	£28,981
North Norfolk	3	7	80	85	263	£28,678
Norwich	39	7	78	83	294	£28,500
South Norfolk	0	4	81	85	152	£29,139

Opportunity

South Norfolk displays the highest levels of proposed housing growth, employment growth, and GVA as well as the highest level of degree qualifications. Norwich also displays high levels of projected GVA and housing growth.

North Norfolk, Breckland and King's Lynn and West Norfolk present less opportunity in employment or GVA growth. Breckland has a lower proportion of knowledge economy jobs compared to districts with similar levels of degree qualification.

Location	Proposed housing growth (2036)	Projected % employment growth (2019 – 2040)	Projected % GVA growth (2019 – 2040)	% of population with degree level qualifications	% of knowledge economy jobs (2020)
Breckland	12,272	0.56	18.7	37	9
Broadland	8,210	2.58	24.1	20	22
Great Yarmouth	7,140	-3.06	30.8	22	11
KLWN	10,155	-6.10	18.0	13	8
North Norfolk	8,581	-3.62	18.8	2	7
Norwich	15,204	6.55	29.7	41	22
South Norfolk	16,072	21	49.2	54	11

Manufacturing, mining and quarrying, and wholesale and retail sectors are currently the largest employment sectors across Norfolk. Administrative, health and

social work, and financial and insurance sectors account for the largest projected employment growth. Wholesale and retail does not feature as a high growth area in any district.

Districts	Biggest employment sectors (2019)	Projected growth (2030)
Breckland	 Wholesale and retail (8,730) Manufacturing (8,490) Construction (5,550) Human health and social work (5,300) Education (4,560) 	 Administrative and support (17.5%) Human health and social work (16.4%) Arts, entertainment and recreation (14.8%) Information and communication (12.5%) Professional, scientific and technical (11.3%)
Broadland	 Mining and quarrying (7,870) Transportation and storage (7,740) Professional, scientific and technical (7,430) Electricity, gas, steam and air (5,850) Agriculture, forestry and fishing (5,010) 	 Human health and social work (18.9%) Transportation and storage (15.1%) Manufacturing (14.9%) Real estate activities (12.5%) Arts, entertainment and recreation (10.2%)
Great Yarmouth	 Financial and insurance (8,100) Accommodation and food service (6,150) Wholesale and retail trade (5,780) Professional, scientific and technical (3,540) Other service activities (3,300) 	 Arts, entertainment and recreation (15.2%) Financial and insurance (13.2%) Professional, scientific and technical (12.4%) Human health and social work (10.3%) Administrative and support (8.4%)
King's Lynn and West Norfolk	 Manufacturing (10,680) Mining and quarrying (9,880) Other service activities (7,400) Arts, entertainment and recreation (5,190) 	 Human health and social work (13.5%) Financial and insurance (13.5%) Mining and quarrying (8.6%) Electricity, gas, steam and air (8%) Real estate activities (7.8%)

Districts	Biggest employment sectors (2019)	Projected growth (2030)
	• Information and communication (5,100)	
North Norfolk	 Wholesale and retail trade (6,500) Accommodation and food service (4,960) Financial and insurance (4,650) Information and communication (3,600) Other service activities (3,260) 	 Arts, entertainment and recreation (13.8%) Financial and insurance (12%) Administrative and support (11%) Human health and social work (7.6%) Mining and quarrying (7.4%)
Norwich	 Wholesale and retail (17,040) Agriculture, forestry and fishing (13,120) Accommodation and food service (8,570) Financial and insurance (7,980) Professional, scientific and technical (7,860) 	 Financial and insurance (17.2%) Electricity, gas, steam and air (17.2%) Accommodation and food service (16.9%) Public administration and defence (14%) Construction (11.9%)

Each district has specific economic development and regeneration. Some of the districts' most significant opportunities and aspirations are set out below:

Broadland, South Norfolk and Norwich

The ambitions of these districts are set out in the Joint Emerging Local Plan as the Greater Norwich Local Plan:

- Policies of the plan seek to grow the local economy in a sustainable way to support jobs and inclusive growth in both urban and rural locations
- Norwich urban area playing a key role in employment
- Changing nature of retail and town centres to be supported through a development hierarchy
- Importance of tourism to the local economy
- Needs of SMEs and start-ups to be addressed through employment site provision
- Tourism, environmental and cultural industries to be promoted and assisted
- Facilitation of the expansion of opportunities for innovation, skills and training

Breckland

Breckland Local Plan:

- Allocation of employment land with new office space focus to be on town centres
- Maximise benefits of the Cambridge Norwich Tech Corridor
- Breckland Town Delivery Plans in development key settlements of Attleborough and Thetford, and its market towns of Dereham, Watton and Swaffham as a central development hierarchy

Great Yarmouth

Great Yarmouth Economic Strategy:

- Encouragement of development proposals that seek to improve and enhance existing tourist and leisure offer
- Secure new inward investment to the borough to create a vibrant economy and match local skills provision
- Great Yarmouth and Gorleston as important town centres
- Encourage growth of enterprise zones and business parks to encourage business growth

King's Lynn and West Norfolk

Local Plan Review in development with priorities including:

- Sustainable economy that will be supported through the provision of physical and digital infrastructure
- Strategically well connected through the King's Lynn Cambridge London rail link and A47 road
- Skills and aspirations development in young people and adults to contribute to a prospering local economy. Retaining a focus on tourism and West Norfolk as a premier tourism destination
- Shift towards encouraging development towards Downham Market

North Norfolk

(New) Local Plan in development with aims and objectives for the local economy:

- Tourism dominated economy to be distinct and diverse in its offer
- E-commerce may present opportunities to overcome traditional problems of peripherality
- Recent completion of the Norwich Northern Distributor Road (NDR) opens opportunities for business growth

- Structural changes to agriculture to present opportunities for new rural employment
- Farming to be encouraged to diversify into new agricultural and nonagricultural business activities

Norfolk's districts have important clusters of economic activity that underpin local specialisms. These areas of high economic output present a range of opportunities to support economic growth as investment in these areas is likely to catalyse multiplier effects.

Norwich Financial and Insurance Cluster

District: Norwich

- One of the most specialised financial and insurance clusters in Europe with a 200-year history
- Home to Aviva, Marsh and Moneyfacts
- Growing number of smaller fin-tech companies
- Home to the first National Skills Academy for Financial Services, underpinned by Aviva
- Cluster remains strong locally despite national declines
- Benefits from its proximity to London and other financial hubs

Norwich Research Park

District: Norwich

- Europe's largest single site hub of research, business, training, education and enterprise in food and health
- Comprises of researchers and hundreds of organisations focusing on the full range of technical activities required to research, develop, test, commercialise and market new scientific innovations
- Home to four world-class research institutions: The John Innes Centre, The Quadram Institute, The Earlham Institute and The Sainsbury Laboratory

Norwich Creative and Digital Cluster

District: Norwich

- Norwich hosts a growing cluster of digital and creative businesses
- City characterised by SMEs and start-ups in this sphere
- The University of East Anglia provides graduates and holds networking events
- Norwich University of the Arts has specialisms in arts, design and media
- Norwich University of the Arts is home to the Ideas Factory Incubation Centre

• Digital and creative businesses include Rainbird, EPOS Now, Further, Knit, FXHome and Lambda Films

East of England Energy Zone

Districts: Great Yarmouth and North Norfolk

- Unrivalled mix of wind power, gas and nuclear energy
- Bacton Gas Terminal provides a third of the UK's gas supply
- OrbisEnergy is a centre of excellence for renewables
- Forthcoming Norfolk Vanguard will be the world's largest coastal windfarm
- The Southern North Sea has 150 offshore gas assets
- The Southern North Sea has 986 offshore wind turbines generating 3.75GW of renewable energy
- Over 1,000 wind turbines to be delivered over the next decade across the zone
- Enterprise Zone status has been awarded

Cambridge-Norwich Tech Corridor

Districts: Norwich, South Norfolk, King's Lynn and West Norfolk

- Spans over 100km and connects two important cities
- Contains over 12,000 knowledge-intensive businesses
- Significant housing and commercial development planned along the A11, most notably the redevelopment of RAF Mildenhall and Thetford Urban Extension
- Assets include Scottow Enterprise Park, Norwich Research Park, Hethel Engineering Centre, Norwich University of the Arts, Suffolk Park, Eastern Agri-Tech Innovation Hub, West Suffolk College, Wellcome Genome Campus, University of Cambridge, Cambridge Biomedical Campus, Granta Park and Cambridge Science Park

Clean Energy definition

Number	Definition
20110	Manufacture of industrial gases
20140	Manufacture of other organic basic chemicals
24460	Processing of nuclear fuel
25110	Manufacture of metal structures and parts of structures
27110	Manufacture of electrical motors, generators and
	transformers
27120	Manufacture of electricity distribution and control apparatus
27200	Manufacture of batteries and accumulators

Number	Definition
27320	Manufacture of other electronic and electric wires and cables
27920	Manufacture of other electrical equipment
28110	Manufacture of engines and turbines, except aircraft, vehicle
	and cycle engines
30110	Building of ships and floating structures
33110	Repair of fabricated metal products
33120	Repair of machinery
33130	Repair of electronic and optical equipment
33140	Repair of electrical equipment
33150	Repair and maintenance of ships and boats
33190	Repair of other equipment
33200	Installation of industrial machinery and equipment
35110	Production of electricity
35120	Transmission of electricity
35130	Distribution of electricity
35140	Trade of electricity
35210	Manufacture of gas
35220	Distribution of gaseous fuels through mains
35230	Trade of gas through mains
38210	Treatment and disposal of non-hazardous waste
38310	Dismantling of wrecks
42210	Construction of utility projects for fluids
42220	Construction of utility projects for electricity and
42220	telecommunications
46120	Agents involved in the sale of fuels, ores, metals and
10120	industrial chemicals
46711	Wholesale of petroleum and petroleum products
46719	Wholesale of fuels and related products (other than
107.10	petroleum and petroleum products)
47300	Retail sale of automotive fuel in specialised stores
49200	Freight rail transport
49410	Freight transport by road
49500	Transport via pipeline
50100	Sea and coastal passenger water transport
50200	Sea and coastal freight water transport
50300	Inland passenger water transport
50400	Inland freight water transport
51101	Scheduled passenger air transport
51102	Non-scheduled air transport
52101	Operation of warehousing and storage facilities for water
· ·	transport
52103	Operation of warehousing and storage facilities for land
355	transport
52211	Operation of rail freight terminals
52219	Other service activities incidental to land transportation, n.e.c.
	(not including operation of rail freight terminals, passenger facilities at railway stations or passenger facilities at bus and
	coach stations)

Number	Definition
52220	Service activities incidental to water transportation
52230	Service activities incidental to air transportation
52241	Cargo handling for water transport activities of division 50
52243	Cargo handling for land transport activities of division 49
52290	Other transportation support activities
70210	Public relations and communication activities
70221	Financial management
70229	Management consultancy activities (other than financial
	management)
71121	Engineering design activities for industrial process and
	production
71122	Engineering related scientific and technical consulting
	activities
71129	Other engineering activities (not including engineering design
	for industrial process and production or engineering related
	scientific and technical consulting activities)
71200	Technical testing and analysis
74901	Environmental consulting activities

Knowledge economy

Number	Definition
18140	Binding and related services
26200	Manufacture of computers and peripheral equipment
26301	Manufacture of telegraph and telephone apparatus and
	equipment
26309	Manufacture of communication equipment (other than
	telegraph and telephone apparatus and equipment)
18110	Printing of newspapers
18121	Manufacture of printed labels
18129	Printing (other than printing of newspapers and printing on
	labels and tags) nec
18130	Pre-press and pre-media services
18201	Reproduction of sound recording
18202	Reproduction of video recording
18203	Reproduction of computer media
72110	Research and experimental development on biotechnology
72190	Other research and experimental development on natural
	sciences and engineering
58290	Other software publishing
61100	Wired telecommunications activities
61200	Wireless telecommunications activities
61900	Other telecommunications activities
62011	Ready-made interactive leisure and entertainment software
	development
62012	Business and domestic software development

Number	Definition
62020	Computer consultancy activities
62030	Computer facilities management activities
63110	Data processing, hosting and related activities
65201	Life reinsurance
65202	Non-life reinsurance
66290	Other activities auxiliary to insurance and pension funding
71112	Urban planning and landscape architectural activities
71121	Engineering design activities for industrial process and production
71122	Engineering related scientific and technical consulting activities
71129	Other engineering activities (not including engineering design for industrial process and production or engineering related scientific and technical consulting activities)
71200	Technical testing and analysis
72200	Research and experimental development on social sciences and humanities
74901	Environmental consulting activities
74902	Quantity surveying activities
74909	Other professional, scientific and technical activities (not including environmental consultancy or quantity surveying)
91040	Botanical and zoological gardens and nature reserve activities
58110	Book publishing
58120	Publishing of directories and mailing lists
58130	Publishing of newspapers
58141	Publishing of learned journals
58142	Publishing of consumer, business and professional journals and periodicals
58190	Other publishing activities
58210	Publishing of computer games
61300	Satellite telecommunications activities
63120	Web portals
70210	Public relations and communication activities
71111	Architectural activities
73110	Advertising agencies
73120	Media representation
74100	Specialised design activities
74201	Portrait photographic activities
74202	Other specialist photography (not including portrait photography)
74203	Film processing
74209	Other photographic activities (not including portrait and other specialist photography and film processing) nec
74300	Translation and interpretation activities
91011	Library activities
91012	Archive activities
91020	Museum activities

Number	Definition
64110	Central banking
64191	Banks
64192	Building societies
64201	Activities of agricultural holding companies
64202	Activities of production holding companies
64203	Activities of construction holding companies
64204	Activities of distribution holding companies
64205	Activities of financial services holding companies
64209	Activities of other holding companies (not including
0.200	agricultural, production, construction, distribution and
	financial services holding companies) nec
64301	Activities of investment trusts
64302	Activities of unit trusts
64303	Activities of venture and development capital companies
64304	Activities of open-ended investment companies
64305	Activities of property unit trusts
64306	Activities of real estate investment trusts
64910	Financial leasing
64921	Credit granting by non-deposit taking finance houses and
04021	other specialist consumer credit grantors
64922	Activities of mortgage finance companies
64929	Other credit granting (not including credit granting by non-
0 1020	deposit taking finance houses and other specialist consumer
	credit grantors and activities of mortgage finance companies)
	nec
64991	Security dealing on own account
64992	Factoring
64999	Other financial service activities, except insurance and
	pension funding (not including security dealing on own
	account and factoring) nec
65110	Life insurance
65120	Non-life insurance
65300	Pension funding
66110	Administration of financial markets
66120	Security and commodity contracts brokerage
66190	Other activities auxiliary to financial services, except
	insurance and pension funding
66210	Risk and damage evaluation
66220	Activities of insurance agents and brokers
66300	Fund management activities
69101	Barristers at law
69102	Solicitors
69109	Activities of patent and copyright agents; other legal activities
	(other than those of barristers and solicitors) nec
69201	Accounting and auditing activities
69202	Bookkeeping activities
69203	Tax consultancy
70100	Activities of head offices
70100	//ouvilles of flead offices

Number	Definition
70221	Financial management
70229	Management consultancy activities (other than financial
	management)
73200	Market research and public opinion polling
82110	Combined office administrative service activities
82190	Photocopying, document preparation and other specialised
	office support activities
82200	Activities of call centres
82301	Activities of exhibition and fair organisers
82302	Activities of conference organisers
82911	Activities of collection agencies
82912	Activities of credit bureaus
82920	Packaging activities
82990	Other business support service activities nec
85410	Post-secondary non-tertiary education
85421	First-degree level higher education
85422	Post-graduate level higher education
91030	Operation of historical sites

Life sciences

Number	Definition
86111	Hospital activities
86911	Other human health activities
86211	General medical practice activities
86231	Dental practice activities
72191	Other research and experimental development on natural
	sciences and engineering
72111	Research and experimental development on biotechnology
26611	Manufacture of irradiation, electromedical and
	electrotherapeutic equipment
86112	Medical nursing home activities
86221	Specialist medical practice activities
21211	Manufacture of pharmaceutical preparations
32511	Manufacture of medical and dental instruments and supplies
21111	Manufacture of basic pharmaceutical products

Agri-food

Number	Definition
10110	Processing and preserving of meat
10120	Processing and preserving of poultry meat
10130	Production of meat and poultry meat products
10200	Processing and preserving of fish, crustaceans and molluscs

Number	Definition
10310	Processing and preserving of potatoes
10320	Manufacture of fruit and vegetable juice
10390	Other processing and preserving of fruit and vegetables
10410	Manufacture of oils and fats
10420	Manufacture of margarine and similar edible fats
10511	Liquid milk and cream production
10512	Butter and cheese production
10519	Manufacture of milk products (other than liquid milk and
	cream, butter, cheese) nec
10520	Manufacture of ice cream
10611	Grain milling
10612	Manufacture of breakfast cereals and cereals-based foods
10620	Manufacture of starches and starch products
10710	Manufacture of bread; manufacture of fresh pastry goods and
	cakes
10720	Manufacture of rusks and biscuits; manufacture of preserved
	pastry goods and cakes
10730	Manufacture of macaroni, noodles, couscous and similar
	farinaceous products
10810	Manufacture of sugar
10821	Manufacture of cocoa and chocolate confectionery
10822	Manufacture of sugar confectionery
10831	Tea processing
10832	Production of coffee and coffee substitutes
10840	Manufacture of condiments and seasonings
10850	Manufacture of prepared meals and dishes
10860	Manufacture of homogenised food preparations and dietetic
	food
10890	Manufacture of other food products nec
10910	Manufacture of prepared feeds for farm animals
10920	Manufacture of prepared pet foods
11010	Distilling, rectifying and blending of spirits
11020	Manufacture of wine from grape
11030	Manufacture of cider and other fruit wines
11040	Manufacture of other non-distilled fermented beverages
11050	Manufacture of beer
11060	Manufacture of malt
11070	Manufacture of soft drinks; production of mineral waters and
	other bottled waters
46170	Agents involved in the sale of food, beverages and tobacco
46310	Wholesale of fruit and vegetables
46320	Wholesale of meat and meat products
46330	Wholesale of dairy products, eggs and edible oils and fats
46341	Wholesale of fruit and vegetable juices, mineral waters and
100.10	soft drinks
46342	Wholesale of wine, beer, spirits and other alcoholic
10000	beverages
46360	Wholesale of sugar and chocolate and sugar confectionery

Number	Definition
46370	Wholesale of coffee, tea, cocoa and spices
46380	Wholesale of other food, including fish, crustaceans and
	molluscs
46390	Non-specialised wholesale of food, beverages and tobacco
47110	Retail sale in non-specialised stores with food, beverages or
	tobacco predominating
47210	Retail sale of fruit and vegetables in specialised stores
47220	Retail sale of meat and meat products in specialised stores
47230	Retail sale of fish, crustaceans and molluscs in specialised
	stores
47240	Retail sale of break, cakes, flour confectionery and sugar
	confectionery in specialised stores
47250	Retail sale of beverages in specialised stores
47290	Other retail sale of food in specialised stores
47810	Retail sale via stalls and markets of food, beverages and
	tobacco products
56101	Licensed restaurants
56102	Unlicensed restaurants and cafes
56103	Takeaway food shops and mobile food stands
56210	Event catering activities
56290	Other food service activities
56301	Licensed clubs
56302	Public houses and bars

Digital/creative

Number	Definition
6201	Computer programming activities
6202	Computer consultancy activities
6203	Computer facilities management activities
6209	Other information technology and computer services activities
6311	Data processing, hosting and related activities
6312	Web portals
6391	News agency activities
6399	Other information service activities not elsewhere classified
7021	Public relations and communication activities
7111	Architectural activities
7311	Advertising agencies
7312	Media representation
7410	Specialised design activities
7420	Photographic activities
7430	Translation and interpretation activities
8552	Cultural education
9001	Performing arts
9002	Support activities to performing arts

Number	Definition
9003	Artistic creation
9004	Operation of arts facilities
9101	Library and archive facilities
9102	Museum activities
9511	Repair of computers and peripheral equipment
9512	Repair of communication equipment
2611	Manufacture of electronic components
2612	Manufacture of loaded electronic boards
2620	Manufacture of computers and peripheral equipment
2630	Manufacture of communication equipment
2640	Manufacture of consumer electronics
2680	Manufacture of magnetic and optical media
3212	Manufacture of jewellery and related articles
4651	Wholesale of computers, computer peripheral equipment and
	software
4652	Wholesale of electronic and telecommunications equipment
	and parts
5811	Book publishing
5812	Publishing of directories and mailing lists
5813	Publishing of newspapers
5814	Publishing of journals and periodicals
5819	Other publishing activities
5821	Publishing of computer games
5829	Other software publishing
5911	Motion picture, video and television programme production activities
5912	Motion picture, video and television programme post- production activities
5913	Motion picture, video and television programme distribution activities
5914	Motion picture projection activities
5920	Sound recording and music publishing activities
6010	Radio broadcasting
6020	Television programming and broadcasting activities
6110	Wired telecommunications activities
6120	Wireless telecommunications activities
6130	Satellite telecommunication activities
6190	Other telecommunications activities

Night time economy

Number	Definition
551	Hotels and similar accommodation
561	Restaurants and mobile food service activities
562	Event catering and other food service activities
563	Beverage serving activities

Number	Definition
801	Private security activities
900	Creative, arts and entertainment activities
910	Libraries, archives, museums and other cultural activities
920	Gambling and betting activities
931	Sports activities
932	Amusement and recreation activities
471	Retail sale in non-specialised stores
478	Retail sale via stalls and markets
491	Passenger rail transport, interurban
493	Other passenger land transport
552	Holiday and other short stay accommodation
553	Camping grounds, recreational vehicle parks and trailer parks
559	Other accommodation
842	Provision of services to the community as a whole
861	Hospital activities
869	Other human health activities
871	Residential nursing care activities
872	Residential care activities for learning disabilities, mental
	health and substance abuse
873	Residential care activities for the elderly and disabled
881	Social work activities without accommodation for the elderly
	and disabled